



SOCCER ACTION

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● Ouch! Robbie Dunn (left) of Adelaide Hellas is used as a step-ladder by Brunswick-Juventus star Andrew Zinni at Hindmarsh Stadium last Sunday. Picture: FRANK HOBBS.

Is NSL ready to grasp the nettle?

Private ownership of clubs, a limit on players' wages and transfer fees, and shift of seasons to take advantage of warmer weather

These are some of the big reforms that should go hand in hand with a 14-team National League.

Amalgamation with smaller clubs to

consolidate support and reduce competition also should be considered.

And to help eliminate defensive soccer, three points instead of two should be awarded for a win.

Players must be made subservient to committees rather than vice-versa, and clubs should stop sacking coaches willy-nilly.

State federations must leave Sundays

free for NSL competition and professional promotion of the game is of paramount importance.

These and other considerations are tackled in an in-depth article on page 3, by "Soccer Action" editor Laurie Schwab. It shows how our problems are part of soccer's world-wide ills and how some of those ills may be cured.

It warns the NSL should avoid change unless it is willing to grasp the nettle.

Czech series first test for Scheinflug's men.

Operation Chile '87

Coach Les Scheinflug has taken the first step towards Chile, 1987, by naming an 18-man squad and four reserves for three youth internationals against Czechoslovakia next month.

The youth teams of Australia and Czechoslovakia will meet at King George the Fifth Stadium, Hobart, on Monday, August 4 at 7.30 pm; Perry Park in Brisbane at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, August 6 and Lake Macquarie ground at Speers Point at 7.30 pm on Saturday, August 9.

The senior squads of Australia and Czechoslovakia also will play a three-match series from August 3 to 10.

The Young Socceroos will have weekly camps after the Czech games, leading up to the Queens Cup in Bangkok in November.

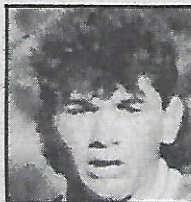
They will play Oceania qualifying group matches for the World Youth Championships from January 17 next year. The finals will be in Chile later in 1987. And a tour of Qatar may be squeezed between the qualifying series and the finals.

Scheinflug believes he has at least 70 per cent of the squad he wants for Chile.

Here is the Australian squad, with Scheinflug's comments about each player.

Goalkeepers

GEORGE BOUHOUTSAS (Sydney Olympic): "I've tried out four goalkeepers and George is the best so far. At the



● John Markovski

moment, I'm still not satisfied."

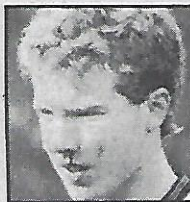
DAVID MOWER (Aust. Institute of Sport): "He toured Europe with the Institute and he was recommended by the AIS coach, Jim Shoulder."

Defenders

GEORGE KULCSAR (Canberra City Olympian): "He's the sweeper, and in some ways he's similar to Oscar Crino — skilful and a good reader of play. He also has the experience of having played several NSL games."

DAMIEN HARLEY (Polonia Adelaide): "A regular South Australian First Division player who's very quick but lacks a little skill."

ALEX CUMMINGS (AIS): "Skilful, a good header, and toured Europe with the Institute."



● Scott Ollerenshaw

KURT REYNOLDS (AIS): "Solid, the best header in the squad and also reads the game well."

DARREN NORTHAM (Blacktown City): "He's close to being a regular with the Blacktown NSL team. A solid all-rounder."

CRAIG MOFFITT (St. Geo Budapest): "Good in the air, lacks a bit of skill on the ground but NSL experience is in his favor."

Midfielders

JASON POLAK (AIS): "A very exciting player, a little like Jim Patikas in the way he quickly comes from behind. He's got two good feet and if his shooting improves, he could be anything."

● Cont. page 5

Mike Peterson seeks pardon

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

"I should never have gone back to Melbourne. I got a bit hot-headed and thought I had been unjustly treated. I should have acted differently. I realise that now. Walking out was the wrong thing to do."

Petersen hasn't spoken to Arok since the incident but this week he made it clear he wants another chance to play for his country.

"I looked at the squad for the Czechoslovakia series and I felt sick at not being in it. I was born in this country and it really means a lot to me to play for Australia."

● Continued page 5



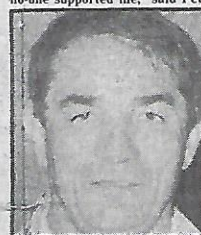
● Mike Petersen

Mike Petersen will pass up the chance to clinch a lucrative contract with Ajax-Amsterdam if he wins his way back into the Socceroo squad this year.

Petersen considers he's been punished long enough for his well-publicised clash late last year with national coach Frank Arok over not wearing a national team blazer.

The clash occurred a day after Australia's 1-1 draw with Israel at Olympic Park in Melbourne. Petersen was dismissed from the national squad but re-instated three days later. By then the squad was in Sydney but when Petersen arrived at Sydney airport he had a change of heart and flew back to Melbourne.

"I just felt that I was on my own and that no-one supported me," said Petersen.



● Dragoslav Sekularac

Sekularac faces charge

Footseray JUST's miracle-worker, Dragoslav Sekularac, faces possible suspension after being reported to the NSL by referee Chris Bambridge.

JUST sweeper Vojislav Vukcevic, formerly of the New York Cosmos, also has been reported over incidents during the match against Sunshine-George Cross at Chaplin Reserve last Sunday.

Bambridge said he had reported Sekularac for gentlemanly conduct and Vukcevic over foul and abusive language as the teams left the pitch at the end of the match.

Bambridge ordered Sekularac off the ground in the 49th minute, when Sekularac went to the touchline and clapped mockingly after Bambridge had awarded George Cross a penalty over handball.

Sekularac claimed later the offence had occurred outside the penalty area.

Bambridge said: "Once again, I'm in the firing line, but that's the lot of a referee, I guess. When situations arise during a match that demand a certain course of action, then you have to take that action. It's as simple as that."



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Vojtek back at Croatia

Billy Vojtek has returned to his roots by joining Melbourne Croatia as assistant coach.

Vojtek, who played 44 games for Australia, lost his job as player-coach of Essendon-Triestina two weeks ago, over what he claimed was an administrative error by a VSF official.

He said that when he went to the VSF seeking a temporary clearance so he could play a guest game for Darwin Olympic on the Sunday, the VSF employee transferred him from mid-week onwards, leaving him unregistered when he played for Triestina against Dandenong on the Saturday.

Dandenong appealed and was awarded the points. Triestina then sacked Vojtek.



● Billy Vojtek

Vojtek, 43, started with Croatia as a player in 1962 and joined Sydney Croatia for two years in 1972. He then went to Brunswick Juventus, back to Croatia, and then was player-coach of Green Gully, Western Suburbs, St Albans Dinamo and Triestina.

He intends playing again next season. His transfer fee is only \$1000.

"I still enjoy it. I'll play on Saturdays. It's good for your health and your mind."

Vojtek will coach Croatia's youth team, as well as assisting senior coach Terry Hennessy.

Murray's recruiting program pays off

Preston-Makedonia coach Bill Murray has had to double as magician so far this year.

No other team has been hit as hard by injuries and suspensions, so it's just as well that Murray recruited promising young players Nick van Egmond and Mike McLellan early in the season.

The tale of woe started during the Buffalo Gold Cup series when star import Mile Necovski was injured. He was off for some time, came back, and was injured again.

Striker Steve Smith has been battling against a knee injury for almost a year, and midfielder Ron Campbell, recruited from Perth, has been out for seven weeks with a damaged ankle.

Zoran Ilkoski missed three matches after returning from his honeymoon in Europe.

George Petrov has the measles.

Con Opasinas had a hamstring injury.

Graham Heys, Petrov, Bill Piculovski and Ian Dobson were suspended.

But Murray always looks on the bright side. "The younger lads have been given chances, and they've acquitted themselves well. Nick van Egmond has made the most of his opportunities — although he too was injured for a while — and George Ilkoski and George Jolevski have looked good when they've joined three seniors," Murray said.

He is disappointed that Sean Lane was not included in the Soccerroo squad but is not about to criticise coach Frank Arok. "Sean is a very good player and I think Frank could use him, but on the other hand, I'm sure he'll pick players he thinks will best balance his side."

LAURIE SCHWAB



● New Soccerroo Tony Dakos (left) in an aerial battle with Alan Davidson of South Melbourne Hellas. The man caught in the middle is Dakos' Soccerroo team mate Graham Jennings, now with Sydney Croatia.

Soccerroo call-up shock for Dakos

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

"I was surprised alright. I thought I had been invited to the training camp just to make up the numbers."

That's how cultured Sydney Olympic sweeper Tony Dakos reacted to news of his selection in the 22-man Soccerroo squad which will take on Czechoslovakia next month.

During the Sydney-based training camp, national boss Frank Arok and assistants Eddie Thomson and Attila Abonyi concentrated on putting pressure on the player with the ball. Clearly, the Soccerroos are going to try and make it as difficult as possible for the Czechs to play their natural, flowing, interpassing game.

Should Arok decide in a change of style at the back, introducing a true libero who would play behind stoppers and get forward at every opportunity, Dakos would fill the bill. But the 22-year-old former youth Soccerroo isn't confident about forcing his way into the starting line-up.

Obviously there are guys in the squad who already have proved themselves and I suppose they'll be the ones who will form the nucleus of the team," said Dakos.

Charlie Yankos is well established as the Soccerroo sweeper but over the past two years he's been used strictly in a defensive role. "I can't see me dislodging Yankos. I think that I'll be used mainly as a reserve but I'll just have to wait and see. I suppose that at some stage in the three-game series guys like me who are new on the scene will get a run."

If Arok is eyeing an Olympic berth in 1988 then he's likely to keep faith with players like Yankos who should be reaching the peak of their careers at that time. Trying to reach the 1990 World Cup finals is a different matter however and it's to players like Dakos that the national coach may look.

And should Dakos make it at national team level, it would be the culmination of a tremendous fightback from injury that threatened his career.

He played just three games last season. Three cartilage operations saw to that.

Around the world Rangers sign Avi Cohen

By PAUL MOON

Glasgow Rangers player-manager Graeme Souness continued his team building efforts last week by signing Israeli international and former Liverpool player Avi Cohen.

Just two weeks ago Souness signed England second string goalkeeper Chris Woods.

But the big news from Ibrox is that Rangers and rival Glasgow Celtic are battling for the signature of England stopper Terry Butcher from Ipswich.

Butcher has had one million pounds put on his head, a figure that has scared away Tottenham Hotspurs.

Colorful manager Jimmy Maio, best known for the feat of guiding Brighton to the 1983 FA Cup Final, is to take charge of English Fourth Division club Stockport County.

Noteworthy was produced by the European Champions Cup first round draw made recently in Zurich were: Juventus (Italy) v Valur (Iceland); Real Madrid (Spain) v Young Boys (Switzerland); Glasgow Celtic (Scotland) v Shamrock Rovers (Ireland); Bayern Munich (West Germany) v PSV Eindhoven (Holland); Panathinaikos (Greece) v Red Star

Belgrade (Yugoslavia); Porto (Portugal) v Rabat Ajax (Malta); Dynamo Kiev (USSR) v Beroe Stara Zagora (Bulgaria); Paris St. Germain (France) v Vitkovice (Czechoslovakia); Austria Vienna (Austria) v Avenir Begger (Luxembourg); Anderlecht (Belgium) v Gornik Zabrze (Poland). Helder Steanu Bucharest received a bye.

Highlights of the European Cup Winners' Cup draw are: Rapid Vienna (Austria) v Club Brugge (Belgium); Aberdeen (Scotland) v Sion (Switzerland) and Roma (Italy) v Zaragoza (Spain). In the UEFA Cup, five ties stand out: Athletic Madrid (Spain) v Werder Bremen (West Germany); Torino (Italy) v Nantes (France); Naples (Italy) v Toulouse (France); Hearts (Scotland) v Dukla Prague (Czechoslovakia); Dundee United (Scotland) v Lens (France). Games will be played on the mornings of September 18 and October 2 Australian time.

Expatriate Roos won't be left out in the cold



LES MURRAY

Take a good look at the team Frank Arok will field on Sunday week in the first match against Czechoslovakia.

It won't be too different from the team that will assemble for the first of the Olympic qualifying matches — or even the first of the World Cup qualifiers (if Frank is still in the job).

Arok's steadfast affection for cohesion is well known. He already has, it can be guaranteed, a pretty good idea of which 11 he fancies to take him into the competitive games.

The only component missing, when one tries to speculate and assemble the pieces, is the overseas contingent. And Arok told me when he selected the 24 for the coming matches that this time, he has every intention of using the expatriates.

Mitchell, Crino and Patikas will figure strongly in his plans. So will perhaps Krncevic, now with Anderlecht — one of Europe's truly elite clubs — and I wouldn't swear that even Johnston has been erased from his mind.

I have no hotline of exclusivity to Frank Arok. But, having been a close observer of the way his previous team evolved, it is not reckless to toy with his likely line up.

Though fair warning must be given to anybody trying to second-guess the Arok's tactical plans and purposes, the players likely understanding with each other, will entirely govern his selection. It will have nothing whatever to do with form or even some acknowledged rating that this player or that is the best in his position. Age will come into it too, but most predictably of all, Arok will start by picking his tried and true men.

So let's suggest, to begin with, that Oliver will be his goalkeeper. Franken might be the best, according to you and me, but Arok still will pick Oliver. Because of his age and his experience. And because he has been tested.

It is not Franken's fault, of course, that he has not been put through that awesome Tel Aviv test. But Oliver has. And the pressure of coming on as a deputy, in front of 45,000 raging Israelis, and then excelling is an invaluable experience which cannot be bought or taught. It may have bought Oliver his permanent No. 1 shirt for the next four years.

Looking at the defence, there is no question Arok will use again his tried formation of two centre-backs reinforced by a sweeper behind. Ratcliffe will certainly be one of the centre backs.

Who the sweeper will be is less easy to predict. But it will depend on whether Frank chooses caution in his opening match or enterprise. If it were the latter the choice would certainly be Dakos, not a sweeper but a libero, a player with a drive to go forward and use his impeccable technique to positive effect.

But my guess is Arok will choose caution so he doesn't play games with morale high and risk defeat at this first stage.

His sweeper will be Yankos. At left back he will have, I would guess, the tried and true Jennings. Right back is now a place to experiment with, following the withdrawal of Alan Davidson. Needing a player with the speed, skill and ambition to go forward as an extra midfielder, I suggest Frank will opt for Postecoglou.

When I spoke to Arok recently and asked him why Postecoglou was in the squad when he already had Jennings he pointed out that the South Melbourne Hellas youngster is a right-footer, being forced to a left back job because of Rus-

sell's consistency and one-footedness on the right. But back to the second centre back position which is the hardest to predict.

The position previously was held by Steve O'Connor and that might give us a hint.

Robbie Dunn and Alan Hunter are the best candidates for a role that involves shacking an opponent as well as getting forward in set-piece situations and causing problems in opposing defences.

Dunn has been tried already. Hunter hasn't but his skill on the ball is well known and could be used during occasional forays in attack. I suspect that Hunter will be given the nod.

The three midfield positions, with Watson gone and Crino absent, are not easy to predict either although Murphy surely will be in. For the remaining two berths I suggest Odzakovic and Raskopoulos.

That leaves the two prongs of the Arok formation up front. This is where Frank has his biggest embarrassment of riches, six players of talent and, by our standards, class with a good mixture of experience and exuberance.

But they select themselves in pairs, not as individuals. Farina and Kantalits for instance, could never do as a pair. Neither would, say, Maxwell and Kosmina, or Soper and Maxwell, or Arnold and Maxwell.

Let's not forget that while Mitchell was domiciled in Scotland, and before Soper pulled his blue on the eve of the World Cup qualifying campaign, Kosmina and Soper was Arok's chosen pair.

I fancy Frank will pick them again.

Bear in mind, again, that this is not my team for I remain cowardly in picking my teams in public. Frank Arok is paid for that and let him have the courage to earn his keep.

It's merely the team I think Frank will pick. And it reads: Oliver; Yankos (Dakos); Postecoglou; Hunter (Dunn); Ratcliffe; Jennings; Odzakovic; Raskopoulos; Murphy; Soper; Kosmina.

Keep your mouth shut

NSL clubs have been warned, in the wake of recent criticism by club presidents, to keep their mouths shut.

"They have been told that criticism of the league has to cease and that any gripes should be kept within the code," NSL chairman Sam Pappasavas said.

"At a meeting of club presidents in Melbourne, the 14-team formal for next season was again endorsed and the criteria set for membership was again explained.

"The clubs will qualify for the 14-team league according to those criteria and nothing is negotiable.

"I know those clubs that are left out will be unhappy but we have explained that under the promotion and relegation system, they can return to the NSL after only a one-year absence by winning their State championship."

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Can new NSL stay out of the world-wide mess?

In the context of soccer's ills world-wide, the National Soccer League is like an ant in the undergrowth, trying to dodge the falling bodies of stricken elephants.

And yet that ant has its chest puffed out, confident it will grow as big as those elephants, and also stay on its feet.

The move towards an elite, 14-team NSL would be a logical extension of Darwin's theory that only the fittest survive, were it not for the fact that virtually the same 14 couldn't stand the pace back in 1981 when the league went from 14 to 16 teams and in 1984 when it switched from 16 to a zonal competition of 24.

When the ship was starting to sink, the strong took on help. The ship stayed afloat, but customers kept jumping off. Now the strong want the ship to themselves again, and they're about to cast their helpers overboard.

Their motivation is mystifying but typical of the confusion that abounds in spectator sports that are stumbling the world over.

Attendances are dwindling due to competition from other leisure pastimes, yet clubs insist on paying higher wages and transfer fees, while raising admission prices and thus driving more people away.

Brazil's national play-offs averaged only 17,000 a game in 1985. In England, since 1978-79, crowds for all four divisions have fallen by more than a quarter, to fewer than 18 million in the season just completed. Italy is the exception, with attendances at Serie A games rising 11,000 a match to 39,000 from 1980 to 1984. Typical of soccer's hari kiri approach, however, Italy then put a ban on new foreign signings, which contributed to a decline in 1985-86, as it is the foreign stars that raised attendances in the first place. Similarly, Australia has been cutting back on imports — albeit mediocre ones by Italy's standards — in a programme that runs parallel with declining attendances.

In most countries, clubs raised admission prices to offset falling crowds. The NSL's admission price of \$6 is about three times as high as it was in 1977. In England, a standing-room ticket in the First Division cost about 56 shillings (60 cents) in 1968. Today, it costs about \$6. And so gate receipts for clubs in the English League rose from \$11 million (US) in 1968 to \$59 million (US) in 1985. In Italy, the Serie A receipts went from \$36 million in 1982-83 to \$83 million in 1985-86.

Lotteries, television and sponsorship brought more money flooding in. The Italian State-run Totocalcio donates about \$65 million of its \$1.3 billion turnover to the game. Spanish television pays \$1.2 million for recorded games and between \$90,000 and \$140,000 for



By Laurie Schwab

each live game. Juventus of Turin gets \$1 million in sponsorship from Ariston, Verona \$900,000 from Canon, Hamburg \$420,000 from BP. In Africa, clubs are owned and run by large companies. Arab Contractors are one example. They are Egypt's biggest club and its biggest building firm. In South America, Coca-Cola, Xerox and Unilever got together to fork out \$450,000 to bring Zico back to Flamengo where his salary is paid partly by Adidas.

In Australia, sponsorship deals have been nowhere near as lucrative, but by local standards hefty nevertheless. Remember Boral (Brisbane City, Adelaide Juventus), Stock Brandy (Brisbane City), Tooth & Co (Newcastle KB Ltd), Brian Pollock Ford (Canberra), JAT (Footscray JUST), Philips Industries (the NSL itself), Rosso Antico (Marconi), Barbaresco (SM-Hellas, Carlton United), Brisbane Lions, Kentucky Fried Chicken (Brisbane Lions), and now Olympic Airways (NSL).

Some money now is available from SBS for TV rights but previously the rights were surrendered to ASF Marketing Ltd in return for a financial return which never was fully realised.

With all those sources of income, football clubs ought to be solvent but in Australia, and all over the world, they are not. In 1947, only six of the 92 English clubs failed to make a profit. In their latest financial years, 56 lost money and half the clubs had debts greater than all their assets except their stadiums. In Spain only Barcelona, Atletico Bilbao and Osasuna have regularly made money in recent years. In Italy, all but four clubs in Serie A made a loss. AC Milan, the fifth-best supported club in Europe, has debts of at least \$10 million. Boca Juniors of Argentina has had to give free transfers to 33 players because it could not pay them.

In the NSL, almost every club is in the red. Sydney Olympic spoke openly last year of a debt of about \$800,000. Heidelberg and Footscray JUST made no secret that at their lowest ebb, they were close to liquidation. Back in 1977, Mooroolbark collapsed under the financial burden imposed by just one season of NSL competition. Newcastle KB United folded up — albeit not for financial reasons alone. Sydney Hakoah faced a crisis when a section of the Hakoah

Club membership seriously doubted the wisdom of supporting financially a soccer team that interested only a few.

The reason for the financial mire is that the blind passion to win overrides sensible financial planning and pushes up players' wages.

Up to late April, total transfer fees paid this season were higher than \$400,000. Counting signing-on fees, players can earn — and regularly do — \$500 a week when they're winning. The average wage bill is between \$3000 and \$4000 a week — not counting signing-on fees paid in instalments during the season. To make \$4000, after ground rental, a club would need at least 1000 spectators. The following week, however, when the club plays away from home, it gets nothing while still having to meet the \$4000 bill. That means it needs at least 2000 people per game to break even. Few clubs manage to draw that many people, so they have to rely on their bar and hot dog sales, their members' donations and dances. Yet they still splash out those wages and, at the beginning of the year, pay hefty transfer fees.

In Italy, most Serie A players are paid upwards of

'The big danger is... that instead of upgrading 14, we may succeed merely in downgrading the rest. Eventually, who will be left for the once-mighty to play against?'

\$200,000 a year. The salary bill of Juventus rose from \$200,000 in 1981 to \$4.1 million in 1983. The banning of new foreign signings meant that the world stars still in the country (Laudrup, Platini, Rummenigge, Boniek) could demand even more money. Law 91, which was introduced in 1982, has been steadily eroding the club's hold over players, because from June 30, of this year, Italian players have had complete freedom of contract. Clubs are thus offering huge financial incentives so players will sign long-term contracts.

In England, the acceleration of wages started in 1961 when the minimum football wage was abolished. Until then, players could be paid no more than \$30 a week during the season and \$25 a week in summer.

Lack of positive leadership is another of football's problems throughout the world. The English Football League is widely regarded as reactionary, a quality demonstrated by its president Jack Dunnett in a meeting with BBC and ITV to negotiate a new TV package in 1984. Dunnett exclaimed: "I don't believe football should be on television." Those negotiations dragged on until half-way through the 1985-86 season, when crowds were down and sponsors were furious. Finally the league agreed to \$2 million for the rest of the

season — about half the original offer. In Australia, soccer needs to be grateful to SBS. Otherwise, it would have no TV coverage at all. Channel 9 and Channel 10 in Melbourne both experimented with soccer and dropped it. The NSL and ASF had their chance to link with the ABC for a nation-wide weekly show providing the ABC also was given rights to international matches. But the ASF refused, because ASF Marketing Ltd., wanted to use commercial networks to cover international games. Channel 7 of Sydney jumped aboard briefly, then jumped off again.

There are clubs that serve as models for the rest of soccer. One is Eintracht Frankfurt. In 1981, it had debts of \$3 million and a huge wages bill and in those circumstances, the German Federation ordered the club concerned to sell players and cut wages. Frankfurt sold its two highest-paid stars and decided to rely on its own youth programme. The club now has only 19 full-time professionals, compared with 23 five years ago and has kept its annual wages bill down to \$1 million. Basic salaries are kept low and bonuses are linked not only with performance but with atten-

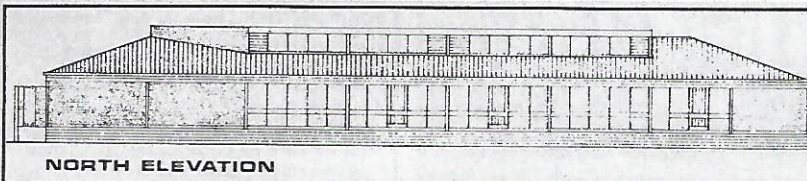
dances. In 1984-85, average attendance was 22,000 and debts were down to \$700,000 and falling.

Liverpool's success has been due to stability. In the past 20 years it has only once failed to make a profit and it has had only four coaches, none of whom has been sacked. The club also has a policy of never borrowing money and its ticket prices are among the lowest in the First Division — \$3.75 to stand, \$7.50 for the dearest seat.

Most countries reduced the number of professional clubs many years ago, when wages started to climb. West Germany formed the Bundesliga, a super league of 18 teams, in 1963, and gradually consolidated the best of the other teams into a Bundesliga Second Division. The NSL now has two divisions but wants to cut one out.

Italy has two fully professional divisions of 16 and 20 teams, while England still has a league of four divisions, 92 clubs and 2000 professional players. In 1984-85 the Third Division was paying its players 11 per cent and the Fourth Division 58 per cent more than the amount taken in gate receipts. Now, the league has agreed to reduce the First Division over the next two

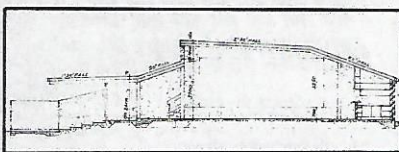
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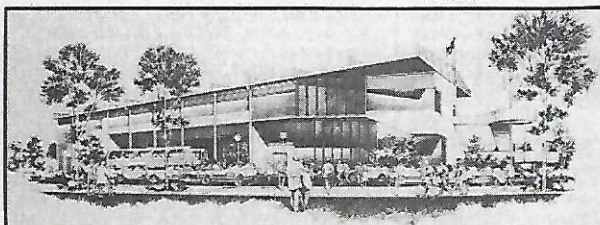
NORTH ELEVATION

● Here's how Footscray JUST's Social Club would look.

Grand plans by JUST, Juve



● A section of JUST's proposed building.



● An architect's drawing of the stadium planned for Juventus' new ground at Brunswick.

Footscray JUST plans a \$750,000 social club and stand at Schintler Reserve, to consolidate the club's popularity among Melbourne's Yugoslav community.

And Brunswick-Juventus is pushing ahead with plans for a \$3 million sports centre between Albert, Victoria and Gardner Streets in Brunswick.

JUST president Tony Amon said his club would seek a government subsidy for its social club, and also raise money among its members.

Meanwhile, JUST plans covering for about 4000 spectators at the river side of Schintler Reserve next season.

The social club project encompasses an entertainment hall, kitchen, bar and change rooms.

"The first thing was to build a team and I think we've done that," Amon said. "Now our supporters deserve a social club. People are willing to put money into it and if we had a good club, open every day, we would have a sound foundation."

"Many JUST supporters live in Footscray, St Albans and Sunshine, so it would be nice and handy for them. This should have been done in the days when we had 10,000 or 15,000 people coming to the games."

"Meanwhile, we're applying for a liquor licence."

Juventus president Joe Caruso said his club had permission from the Minister for Town Planning to proceed with its sports centre but the Minister had set conditions which include:

● Juventus can play only 11 home games a year;

● They have to finish at a certain time of day;

● They can be attended by no more than 2500 spectators.

Caruso said he was waiting for a brief from a barrister before deciding what action to take next.

Protesters have lodged an appeal to the Minister's decision and a tribunal hearing is expected no later than September.

"I still hope we can start work late this year," Caruso said.

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Will Edwards put them away?

Petersen seeks pardon



● Suleiman Curovic



● Carl Gilder

**Geo. Cross 1
Foots JUST 1**
Scorers: Latif (JUST) 19th.
Richardson pen (SGC) 49th.
Venue: Chaplin Reserve.
Crowd: 3065
Referee: Chris Bambridge

Sent off: Dragoslav Sekularac (JUST coach), 49th.
Cautions: Latif (JUST), Dragoslav Sekularac (SGC).
All the ballyhoo about referee Chris Bambridge sending off JUST coach Dragoslav Sekularac took the emphasis away from a powerhouse performance by George Cross in the first half.

Headed by Noel Mitten and Shaun Parton hit the crossbar. Don MacLaren hit the post. Mitten missed with a close-range volley. John Campbell missed narrowly and Carl Gilder was tackled by Warren Spink in the nick of time with the goal at Gilder's mercy.

During this period, JUST stoppers Rade Bjarkjarevic and Vlatko Belic were unable to stick with Gilder and Mit-



Laurie Schwab

ten. The George Cross midfielder, supported by Tyrone James and Shaun Parton coming from the back, completely overran JUST, meaning George Cross attacked with as many as eight men!

But luck favored JUST, as it had against Adelaide Juventus in particular, and in the second half, George Cross ran out of puff. JUST's superior fitness then began to tell, and the league leaders even had a couple of chances to steal the point.

The turning point came when Sekularac took off midfielder Warren Spink in the 40th minute, in order to bring on Tom Karic to help subdue Gilder. That released Belic to midfield and Gilder found the going a lot tougher against Karic.

George Cross coach John Gardiner kept Chris Taylor in the sweeper's position and moved John Campbell up into midfield, meaning John Markovski was left on the bench until he came on as a substitute to replace Don MacLaren.

JUST again missed its mid-field maestro Vlado Boznovski who however, expects to resume against Brisbane City at Schintler Reserve on Sunday.

George Cross expects to have Andy Edwards, a striker from Wrexham in Wales, available for its clash with Brisbane Lions in Brisbane. Perhaps he will have more luck with the chances others create in attack.

Sekularac was sent off for clapping Bambridge mockingly after Bambridge had warned George Cross a penalty over handball by Vojislav Vukcevic. Sekularac, who felt the offence had occurred outside the box, was waved back to the coaches' bench by Bambridge, and when he kept advancing, Bambridge ordered him to leave the playing area.

Bambridge already had given Vukcevic the yellow card over the way he had protested over the penalty decision. In fact, the penalty was first indicated by the linesman. Bambridge took his advice.

Steve Richardson beat Zoran Nikitovic with the penalty shot, levelling the scores at 1-1 after 49 minutes.

JUST had scored after 19 minutes, against the run of play. Ernie Tapai sent a pinpoint through ball to Zdravko Lujic who ran into the box and crossed it short for Ossie Latif to head home at the near post. Latif, who joined JUST from George Cross late last year, scored twice when JUST won their first-round clash 2-1.

Tapai started the match poorly, losing the ball near goal as he had against Croatia the previous week but it was a testament to his character that he came back strongly in the second half, fighting like a demon.

Everything JUST created near goal, again came from Lujic, while Latif also played well up front. These two don't get all that much of the ball but give them an inch — especially Lujic — and you're dead.

It was JUST, however, that should have been buried well before Latif scored. Mitten headed against the crossbar after a cross by MacLaren in the 4th minute. Gilder headed the ball down for Mitten to volley wide in the 7th. Mitten played a short through ball for MacLaren, running in on the left, and MacLaren's shot — which beat Nikitovic — bounced off the far post. Down 0-1, George Cross continued to surge forward but Roger Bain's low shot from inside the box, went straight at Nikitovic.

At the other end, Latif was shown the yellow card for belting the ball over the bar after play had been stopped for offside.

A cross from Tyrone James gave George Cross another excellent chance in the 33rd.

**Man of the match:
SULEIMAN CUROVIC
(Foots JUST)**

minute, but Shaun Parton headed against the bar. Then MacLaren flicked the ball on for Campbell who shot wide.

Belic tried hard to push JUST forward with the score at 1-1, but he wasted a good scoring chance when he hit a square ball from Lujic across goal, taking the shot in front of Latif, who was lurking, ready to strike.

George Cross coach John Gardiner tried to add teeth to the attack by replacing MacLaren with Markovski in the 60th minute and then Mitten with Mark Lennon in the 66th.

It was JUST that struck next, however, when Lujic laid the ball down for a sizzling shot from Tapai. Goalkeeper Sean Keogh could only throw himself in the way, but no-one was at hand to take advantage for JUST as the ball bounced off him.

Vukcevic started for JUST in the last 15 minutes, clearing everything in defence and, with five minutes to go, moving into the box to try to meet a corner from Tapai. However, Belic jumped in front of Vukcevic and headed over the bar.

Rasic finds answer to Rozic's game



Peter Scott

**APIA 1
Syd. Croatia 0**
Scorers: Butler 75th
Venue: Lambert Park
Crowd: 4816
Cautions: Rozanic, Stewart, Butler (APIA).
Mind over money is how one might describe APIA's upset of NSL Northern Division leader Croatia.

Rale Rasic's team is in many ways one of spare parts, as against Croatia's expensive line up of finely-crafted components.

However, Rasic's bits and pieces are starting to jell, at least the defence and midfield, both bottled up of the much-vaunted Croatia attack. And they had help from elsewhere.

"All week long we were practicing how to counter Rozic's long, high balls from the back," Rasic said, and this preparation paid off handsomely.

Croatia's attacks were stereotyped and predictable from go to whoa. In fact, both attacks were less than impressive, but while Croatia has obvious talent available to fight another day, APIA hasn't.

It came as no surprise when midfielder Terry Butler popped up in the 75th minute to blast first-time from 13 metres what proved to be the winner. He capitalised on a free kick by Edward Lorens, which was cut back from the by-line by Tony Morsello, straight into Butler's path.

APIA's attackers made no

impression whatsoever, Morsello looking cumbersome and lacking concentration, Lorens trying hard without much success and his fellow Polish import Janusz Baran looking skilful but finding it beneath his dignity to be involved in tackles or man-to-man contests with Croatia's defence. In fact, he played what is described in my old country, Hungary, as "alibi football".

No criticism can be made, however, of APIA's other units. Butler played as hard and enthusiastically as ever. In fact, he was impeccable.

He assisted in defence, grafted and tackled his heart out in midfield and always posed danger to the Croatia goal.

Not far behind him was his skipper Arno Bertogna, playing a commanding role as sweeper, letting nothing past him.

Apart from Wally Saver, the only Croatia players to catch the eye did so in a negative sense, none more so than Zarko Odzakovic, who has been disappointing in the matches I have seen, and Graham Arnold, who, after a couple of pretty moves early, was just one of many mediocre players on show.

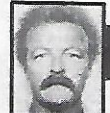
The match was rather a drab affair, and typically, neither of the two goalkeepers had much to do. On balance, APIA deserved to finish just in front, and the result opens up all sorts of interesting possibilities in the increasingly tense race for the top five.

**Man of the match:
TERRY BUTLER
(APIA)**



● Terry Butler

THOMSON HAILS McCULLOCH



Barry Davis

**SC-Hakoah 3
Blacktown 0**
Referee: Evan Venios — 6
Crowd: 861
Scorers: Barnes (17), Gomez (20), Kosmina (89)

It was only its slightly superior skill and vastly greater experience that carried Sydney Hakoah to victory over Blacktown.

Brett Thornthwaite hit the upright for Blacktown after good lead-up work from Adam Sandy and Joe Carroll but in the 17th minute, Hakoah hit the lead through Murray Barnes. Jean-Paul de Marigny had overlapped on the left and played the ball toward John Kosmina but Thornthwaite got a touch and the ball fell to Barnes.

Within three minutes, Hakoah struck again. This time Barnes took a long throw from the right and Gerry Gomez was on the spot at the near post to neatly nod it into the net.

The second half promised to develop into a more interesting affair after Frank Farina twice escaped the Blacktown defence in the opening eight minutes. His crosses found Abbas Saad and Ian Southerns respectively, but both failed to convert.

Farina was rewarded for his many good crosses when, in the 89th minute, Soccerro skipper Kosmina got his head to a well fought ball and found the net.

**Man of the match:
TOM MCCULLOCH
(SC-Hakoah)**

Overall, Hakoah was more constructive in midfield and deserved its win but it must be said that the score-line flattered both the winners and the match.

After the match, Eddie Thomson said he was disappointed with Blacktown City's performance. "They were not in the event today and this was sweet revenge for our 3-2 defeat at the Gabbie," he said.

"There is still room for improvement in our lads but I was pleased with them today. And what about McCulloch? He must be the best buy I have ever made."

Casey de Bruin said: "It was a bad game of football from both sides but they scored from their chances and we didn't."

"I was annoyed that our players didn't play to instructions and make more use of the diagonal ball. We paid the penalty for that."

Perhaps the whole match was most accurately summed up by Joe Carroll who said: "There was no real football played today and I feel sorry for the fans."



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Moments of inspiration

By
KNUT WERNER

**Wollongong 2
Inter Monaro 0**

Scorer: Giraldi 65th, 80th.
Venue: Wollongong Showgrounds.
Crowd: 1,200.
Referee: Manny Loupis 7.

Just when most observers were falling asleep, Wollongong midfielder Rade Stefanovski decided to take the game by the scruff of the neck and engineered two goals for the home side in an exciting last 25 minutes.

The first half was readily forgettable. Monaro looked good early without causing concern in the Wollongong defence.

The first hint of things to come came in the 52nd minute when Wollongong midfielder Bryan Cokely let fly with a long range effort which struck the post. Inter Monaro goalkeeper Nick Antonopoulos recovered superbly to grab the ball be-

**Man of the match:
RADE
STEFANOVSKI
(Wollongong)**

fore Wollongong striker Peter Kotamidis could convert the rebound.

In fact, Kotamidis didn't look sharp in this contest and coach John Fleming replaced him with Randall Easthorpe in the 80th minute, just after the second of Robert Giraldi's goals which by then had broken Monaro's heart.

A scintillating solo run by Stefanovski in the 65th minute in which he weaved his way past three opponents, set up the opening goal.

Stefanovski played the ball to Giraldi, who was just outside the Monaro area and Giraldi's first time shot beat Antonopoulos.

The clincher came when Stefanovski headed a superb through ball to Giraldi and Antonopoulos was beaten again.



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Eight weeks unbeaten as Bergers bag six



Ricko Rosso

Falconer flying around for nothing

Bris City 0 Heidelberg 6

Scorers: 0-1 Wilson, 0-2 Wilson, 0-3 Brown, 0-4 Lucchesi, 0-5 Brown, 0-6 Wilson.
Venue: Spencer Park
Crowd: 888
Referee: Alan Kibbler
Cautions: BC — White, Caird, MA — McKie

Heidelberg Alexander stretched its unbeaten run to eight games with a clinical dissection of a dead Brisbane City side with rigor mortis.

Since the Bergers edged out Blacktown in the Cup quarter-finals, they have scored wins over Footscray Lions, South Melbourne Hellas, Melbourne Croatia and draws with Sunshine George Cross and Preston-Makedonia.

But it is doubtful whether in any of those games Brian Garvey's side was confronted by such ineffective opposition as Brisbane City. NSL axing for City will be a mercy killing.

While Garvey would have been pleased with his players, it would not have surprised me if he had had a few harsh words with them for not putting away more. After the third win in, it could have been six, 15 or 25 had time allowed.

The defeat was City's record losing margin, "bettering" its 1-6 loss to Lions earlier this year. One suspects Heidelberg's effort could be improved upon before the season is out.

Ironically, it was six years less a week exactly that Brisbane City scored its 7-0 NSL record victory over Heidelberg at Perry Park. The exciting football City played on July 27, 1980 had the fans thirsting for more. Last weekend most

of them had left before Paul Wilson completed his hat-trick in the final minute.

City has not won at home this season and now will find it hard to break the duck with only three more Spencer Park games left.

As in many of its home performances so far this season, the team started with enthusiasm. Keiran Cooper, a class player for whom one must feel sorry, looked set to score in the eighth minute but was upended by Heidelberg keeper Jeff Oliver just outside the box and play was waved on.

Hunter had a good header go wide and Wilson gave an indication of what was to come when he intercepted a Cooper backpass and chipped City keeper Robert Harrison only to see the ball squeeze outside the far upright.

But the former Frickley Town player made amends a minute later when totally unmarked at the far post. He headed in a Peter Tsolakis cross, and the combination between those two was to produce all three Wilson goals.

Brown hit the woodwork and had a shot cleared off the line in the 40th and 41st minutes before Wilson ran onto a Tsolakis ball pushed wide on the left, drew Harrison and chipped into the net.

City coach Billy Wilkinson made a double half-time substitution, axing Phil White and Sydney Hakola loan player Peter Falconer.

Falconer had been flown to Brisbane for City's last two home games — an arrangement which on the strength of this substitution now looks unlikely to continue.

The introduction of Dean Milevskic, back again after a mid-season walk-out, and Australian under 16 rep Alfie Catalano, gave City keeper runners but failed to stem the gold and black surge.

But City players, officials and fans were furious when referee Alan Kibbler refused

to give a penalty after Hunter had taken out Cooper in a crunching tackle 18 minutes into the half. Amid the confusion, Hunter carried the ball downfield and played a searching crossfield pass.

With the aid of young City fullback Frank Guglielmino, who headed down, the ball found Brown who finally found the net.

Two minutes later, Kibbler mellowed a little, and when a Hunter clearance hit the unsighted Steve Marley on the hand, the Brisbane referee instantly pointed to the spot — obviously the old even-up decision.

Cooper hit the penalty well, low to Oliver's right, but the Socceroo keeper was quick and clean, holding the ball safely. Ironically, he saved a Bobby Hamilton penalty when the two teams clashed at Carrara (on the Gold Coast) last year.

The miss sank City and the game was all Heidelberg.

Three minutes later, Lucchesi, totally unmarked, ran through the centre, drew Harrison and chipped into the net. Two minutes later Brown was also given a free run and side-footed in a cross.

Waves of Heidelberg attacks followed but the net was not found again until the final minute when Wilson, under no pressure, put away a Tsolakis cross. Not surprisingly, as the ball went into the net there were not less than six City players casually walking in the vicinity of the halfway line.

Perhaps they had decided it was best not to venture too far so as to be in place for the next kick-off.

A soaring header from the courageous McIntosh who had barged his way fearlessly through a throng of Lions defenders (sickening, isn't it, but I promised him I'd redress the imbalance) forced Lions defender Steve Jackson to handle on the line in the 52nd minute.

Voutsinas booked Jackson and a confident McIntosh strode up to the penalty spot, timed his strike sweetly and outwitted Lions goalkeeper Wayne Evans to score one of the finest penalties I've seen at Olympic Park this season.

The winning goal came in the 64th minute and involved midfielders Luka Bonacic, Jim Campbell and Josip Biskic. Bonacic crossed from the right, Campbell headed on and Biskic, unmarked at the far post, smacked the ball home with his second touch.

Not only did Olympic have to contend with playing an opponent whose sole aim was to pack its defence and pray for a draw, but it also had to suffer some astounding decisions from referee Arthur Owens.

Newcastle goalkeeper Clint Gosling was simply superb. A test of a good goalkeeper is his ability to deal with crosses. Gosling took everything in the air with style, poise and confidence.

In addition, his keen sense of anticipation enabled him to

Man of the match:
PAUL WILSON
(Heidelberg)

Class triumphs over Hellas desperation

Allan Crisp



Adel Hellas 1 BU-Juventus 2

Scorers: Zinni 24th, Patterson 54th (Juve); Brown (AH) 89th
Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium
Referee: Donald Campbell

Cautions: Patterson, Petersen (Juventus), Panagis (Hellas)

The chase is on! Brunswick Juventus likes being the champion and has thrown down the gauntlet to Southern League pace-makers Footscray-JUST.

A true champion accepts a challenge and as such could hardly have faced a tougher task than that presented by the wounded and cornered Adelaide Hellas.

Proud Hellas is committed to winning a place in the revamped 1987 league but time is running out for it to achieve that objective.

So Hellas coach Edmund Kreft had his depleted squad fired up to win this testing encounter.

But Hellas found that even the most honest endeavour and well meaning aggression will not triumph over class and skill.

Kreft fielded Brenton Hiern and Alan Scott in place of suspended regulars Charlie Yankos and Chris Manou, while Juventus coach Len McKendry called up young Pat Narama to deputise in goal for Yanka Banovic who was out with a pinched nerve in his back.

With some of the best midfield and forward talent in Australia on view, it was ironic that full-backs Eddie Campbell and Tim Brown were two of the most dominant players.

Campbell caused Hellas gigantic headaches with his intelligent overlapping, timely interceptions and skill.

Tim Brown performed a

Man of the match:
EDDIE CAMPBELL
(BU-Juventus)

similar function for Hellas and rounded off his game with a fine header goal two minutes from the final whistle.

But Brown's effort came too late, as Juventus had made the points secure with goals from Andrew Zinni in the 27th minute and Scott Patterson nine minutes after half time.

Juventus wasted off a late Hellas challenge as Peter Lewis denied Lou Hristodoulou before John Zyzanski cleared a goal-bound shot from Gary Ward off the goal-line.

Coach Len McKendry said his team had played well away from home but dropped off in the second half.

"The game didn't flow in the second half and I think our rhythm was affected more than theirs," he said.

Kreft said his team played well but gave away an easy goal and scored too late.

"We were by no means disgraced because we were in the game more than they were," he said.

Meanwhile, Hellas can do itself and local rival Adelaide City Juventus a favor by securing the away points against Heidelberg this week.

Time is running out for Hellas as it wages its survival fight. With Heidelberg, Footscray-JUST, Brisbane Lions and Adelaide Juventus — South Melbourne Hellas, Melbourne Croatia and George Cross as its final opponents, Hellas faces a torrid run home.

Abrahams the savior?

Man of the match:
GEORGE HANNAH
(M. Croatia)



Craig MacKenzie

M. Croatia 2 Bris. Lions 1

Scorers: McIntosh penalty 52nd, Biskic 64th (MC); Drury 29th (BL)
Venue: Olympic Park No 1
Crowd: about 800
Cautions: Jackson, Niven (BL)
Referee: Dennis Voutsinas

Brisbane Lions should have been awarded a penalty in the 88th minute. It could have given them a point but that was far from Terry Hennessy's mind as he hurried out of the dressing room at the end of the match, carrying a large grin into the social club.

The euphoric Hennessy would have had his day complete had someone offered

him one of those uncommonly large cigars that have developed into a facial appendage for the Melbourne Croatia coach.

No one did, but Hennessy was prepared to settle for being a step away from paradise. Laurie Abrahams and his team mates came to that.

Abrahams was forced to carry his tired limbs from the park late in the game. He had been playing indoor soccer exclusively in the US for some time before jetting into Croatia's first team, hoping to lift the club into the next year's 14-team national competition.

The rigors of outdoor soccer are not new to Abrahams, so he'll get fitter and even better, and he may be joined this week by Paul Lewis, due to resume after injury.

Not only is his first touch

good, not only can he hold the ball when needed, not only does he turn sharply, he also has excellent passing ability, most evident in the second half when he threaded three passes through the Lions defence right to the feet of team mates charging forward at full pace.

Yes, he's going to be a real pain in the rear for opposition teams!

Speaking about discomfort in that area of the anatomy, that's close to where young Brett Drury ran into difficulty after being tripped by Croatia substitute Tony Redmond late in the game. Referee Dennis Voutsinas however, waved play on, to the relief of the diminishing group of Croatia fans.

It took Lions 29 minutes to get a shot on target. Croatia goalkeeper Mirko Runje pushed Russell Stewart's low, long range attempt wide to the rear post, coming off his line but not handling the ball cleanly.

ly, and Drury slammed it in off the underside of the bar.

Croatia's comeback was sparked by big stopper Dave McIntosh who complained to me after the match that recent Press reports haven't done him any favors.

A soaring header from the courageous McIntosh who had barged his way fearlessly through a throng of Lions defenders (sickening, isn't it, but I promised him I'd redress the imbalance) forced Lions defender Steve Jackson to handle on the line in the 52nd minute.

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In addition, his keen sense of anticipation enabled him to

Man of the match:
DAVID LOWE
(Marconi)

Marconi 5 Canterbury 0

Scorers: Tradinnick, Gray, Henderson, Browne, Lowe
Venue: Marconi Stadium
Crowd: 1,387
Referee: Terry Seacy
Cautions: Hantzi, Zrilic (C)
Sent off: Zrilic 90th
David Lowe and Rod

Brown, omitted from the Australian squad last week, reacted by running rampant and scoring a goal each in Marconi's biggest win of 1986.

Newcastle's defence. Soper who had read the play, bore down on goal and Gosling had no option but to come out and bravely dive at the striker's feet.

Soper kept his cool and neatly lifted the ball over the oncoming goalkeeper and into the far corner.

position himself impeccably to pull off save after save.

The solitary goal came in the 64th minute from a move which was a perfect combination of simplicity and timing. Raskopoulos weighted a perfect volley which paralysed

The Lowe show



Alex Vesic

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Marconi had some problems in the opening 15 minutes, Zaimi Bruin hit a fierce drive in the first minute, then came Hantzi with a shot which flashed wide of the post, and an inexplicable miss by Godzik following some good work by Zrilic.

Slowly Marconi took charge, with its front runners tearing holes in Canterbury's defence. El Ali was at his best with some fancy footwork and dazzling raids down the flank, and Rod Brown also was dangerous. David Lowe, chosen by Les Scheinberg to be Marconi's target man, was yet again the star of the show.

Lowe's chip for Gray eluded the Berries' defence but Gray failed to find the net in the 74th. Lowe repeated the service for Brown who scored in the 86th and Lowe crowned one of his personal best performances by scoring himself from a great cross from Carter.

Brown, scorer of the fourth goal, was in great touch. He was at hand to receive from Lowe in the 52nd and cut back to Lowe, who made it 3-0. He showed exceptional understanding with Lowe and Tradinnick and his understanding with the new man, Osvaldo El Ali, is improving with every game.

Gray scored one in the 52nd but missed a host of others. He tried so hard and deserved better but his shooting let him down.

Tradinnick was in fine form and opened the scoring for the home team with a looping drive after 23 minutes. A John Radman clearance had bounced in front of Tradinnick and he wasted little time in lobbing Hummel.

Zrilic became frustrated in the closing stages as Marconi led 2-0. When Henderson chimed into attack in the 72nd to exchange passes with Brown and score Marconi's third, Zrilic went forward and demanded that a few of his team mates come forward also. The rest stayed back despite his pleas and frustration got the better of him in the end. He was cautioned and sent off in quick succession.

Gosling stops everyone—except Soper

Man of the match:
CLINT GOSLING
(Newcastle)

Sydney Olympic 1 N. Rosebud 0

At Pratten Park
Scorer: Soper 64th
Crowd: 3877
Cautions: Soper, Rogers, Spanoudakis and Estavillo

(SO): Ingham, Cavanah and Heap (N)
Referee: Arthur Owens 5.

Sydney Olympic showed splendid character and determination to overcome a down, and stubbornly defensive Newcastle outfit and climb back to the top of

the Northern Division table.

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Mike Mikolajczyk

Knox City Soccer club

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Gully didn't read the script

Man of the match:
TOMMY CUMMING
(Green Gully)

Makedonia 2 Green Gully 2

Scorers: 1-0 Cole 7th, 1-1 Fraser pen, 20th, 2-1 Cole pen, 63rd 2-2 Theodosopoulos 72nd.
Venue: Connor Reserve
Referee: Tony Pollard 5
Cautions: Tom Pollard (Mak)
Despite the absence of Ian Dobson (suspended), Con Opatanis and Steve Smith (injured), the Makedonia fans must have been confident of savoring victory for the first time since May 25.

After all, Green Gully is bottom of the league and Makedonia has plenty of depth, with Mile Necovski and Ron Campbell coming back after injury and recent recruit Martin Woodall bolstering the defence.

That was the pre-match scenario but Green Gully hasn't read the script.

It came out, revved-up by coach Gus Macleod who, as everyone knows, is no quitter, and simply tore into Makedonia.

The opening period was all Gully but in the seventh minute, visiting referee Tony Pollard found a free kick for Makedonia, and Zoran Hioski floated the ball over for Gary Cole at the far post to head out of Lou Denys' reach.



Les Shorrock

In the next few minutes, a woefully out-of-touch Sean Lane missed two sitters and the referee disallowed a perfectly good goal by Mile Necovski.

Denys had the ball in his hands and Necovski just faced up to him in the usual way. Denys dithered, somehow dropped the ball, and Necovski happily slammed it into the net and turned, arms outstretched in triumph only to see the referee shaking his head and indicating a Gully free kick.

Honest Gus Macleod said after the game it had been a goal. So did everybody else except the ref.

Referee Pollard apparently is under the impression that soccer is a non-contact sport, because every time two players contested for the ball it was a foul, and most of the time the players were unsure which way the kick was going.

The disallowed goal and the incessant whistling weren't Pollard's only contributions to the game. He added to the general air of disbelief by awarding two extremely dubious penalties.

The first one gave Gully its first equaliser, in the 20th minute. Tommy Cumming, who was leading the patched-up Makedonia defence a merry dance, jinked his way into the box, and was eventually

stopped by sheer weight of numbers, but the referee ruled that Martin Woodall had handled, and Scott Fraser fired in the spot-kick.

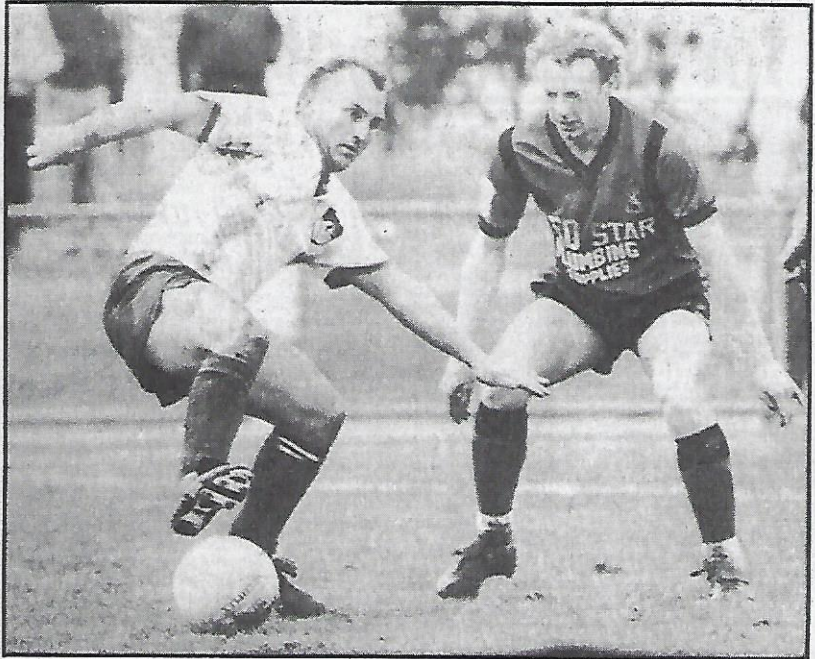
That gave us a half-time score of 1-1 and we hoped for better things to come. A Gary Cole headed goal is a collector's item and he nearly made it a red-letter day as he forced Denys into a full length save from another powerful header early in the second half.

The crowd was getting restive and giving former heroes like Lane some verbal stick but it was the referee who came to Makedonia's rescue with another penalty.

This time Cole, soaring for yet another header, was judged to have been pushed, and Cole converted the penalty.

Makedonia 2-1 up against these upstarts in green, surely would have to win now but it wasn't to be. Les Carter won a free kick on the left, crossed the ball and Costa Theodosopoulos bravely launched himself between two defenders and the ball was in the net in less time than it would take to say his name.

If the league were to start afresh next week, you'd have to pencil in the greens as a favorite, probably, provided they didn't run across too many refs like Pollard.



● Man-of-the-match Tommy Cumming (left) of Green Gully shields the ball from Makedonia full back Mike McLennan. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

MARGARITIS PLAYS IT COOL

SM-Hellas 1 Adel Juventus 1

Scorers: 1-0 Crainie 15th pen, 1-1 Villani 68th
Venue: Middle Park
Referee: Gary Power 6
Cautions: Miranda, Shillabeer

It may have taken 15 years but John Margaritis finally has taken the pressures of soccer coaching in his stride and has put off any plans of giving the game away especially now that he has been given the spur of added involvement with the national team.

"If the traumas that have happened this season had happened earlier in my career I would have quit. I did it in Adelaide, walking of after not getting the backing from the committee."

"But this year I came in prepared for it and I haven't let the things that happen off the field affect me so much."

"I think the longer you stay in the game the more you get



Peter Desira

used to it and the better you cope," Margaritis said.

"I wouldn't mind taking a year off to go to Europe but there is no chance of that because I've given by commitment to Frank Arok and it looks like the coaches in the national team set-up will be more involved with the Soccerco this time around."

"I did not play any part in interstate training camps in the previous campaign but I've been asked to go to the first one coming up in Canberra. Frank feels we ought to work a lot closer together this time and I'm delighted because I want to help."

Having given that commitment, Margaritis is looking forward to being involved in the

finals of the National League and South Melbourne Hellas was unlucky not to have made a spot in the play-offs a bit more certain on Sunday because it certainly did enough to win this game against Adelaide Juventus.

Hellas came into the game without Stuart Stevenson who was suspended for one match after accumulating the maximum 12 penalty points and Margaritis was again forced to re-organise the side.

This time he pushed Danny Crainie up to partner Charlie Egan and brought in Manny Anzeakis to play alongside Steve Blair and in front of Garry McDowall.

With no extra central defender, Margaritis gave his two fullbacks, Bobby Russell and Angie Postecoglou, more licence to go forward and the duo figured among the best players of the game although Adelaide Juventus countered the move by exploiting the extra space in midfield through Alex Tobin who abandoned his left back position time and again to come forward and create problems.

Hellas took the initiative in

the first half and fully deserved to go in leading 1-0 at the break even if it came from a dubious decision from Sydney referee Gary Power.

Bobby Russell, making one of his runs forward, was barged off the ball as he entered the box but Power waved away claims for a penalty in the 14th minute.

Less than 60 seconds later Charlie Egan was challenged by Tobin as he made a run down the left and could not stop the ball going over the by-line in the tussle. There appeared to be little in the challenge compared with the charge on Russell but this time the referee awarded a penalty and Crainie made no mistake with his spot kick to the right, giving keeper Steve Nisicli no chance.

Hellas came close to adding to the score when Crainie's cross from the right fell nicely at the far post for Egan whose shot was parried onto the post by the keeper.

Russell, obviously enjoying the game against his former club, came close again for Hellas in the 33rd minute, rising to meet a Ken Murphy free kick with a header which Nisicli did well to tip over the bar.

Juventus however lifted its game after the break and levelled the score in the 68th minute following a foul on Steve Maxwell outside the box. Sergio Melia took the

Man of the match:
GARRY McDOWALL
(SM-Hellas)

short free kick and Charley Villani drove his shot through the defensive wall and under Peter Laumets to make it 1-1. In the closing stages, Hellas pushed hard for the winner but was denied by two clearances off the line.

In the 8th minute Russell controlled a Crainie cross and smashed a shot past the keeper only to see the ball blocked on the line by substitute Gary Higgins and two minutes from the end Murphy got on the end of a Postecoglou cross to drive goalwards only to be denied by Shillabeer.

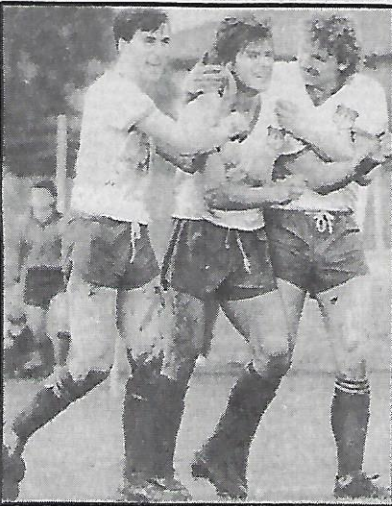
Praise for Slaveski

Kenny Slaveski, signed by St George Budapest last week, is a star of the future, according to coach Frank Arok.

"I've never seen an Australian player with two better feet," Arok said.

"He can play in midfield, or in defence. He's all quality."

Slaveski was bought from Rockdale Hindon for \$5000.



● Costa Theodosopoulos (centre) is congratulated by Colin Quigley (left) and Stuart Cannell on having scored Green Gully's equalising goal at Connor Reserve.

Palacios steals the show

Canberra 3 St George 1

Scorers: Bryant 15th, Gibson 52nd, Dunn 62nd (C), Fletcher 11th (St G).
Venue: Bruce Stadium.
Crowd: 674
Ref: Ken Small, 5
Cautions: Byrne, Harkins, Dunn (C), Ratcliffe, M. O'Shea (St G).

A gutsy team effort and immaculate play by experienced international Augusto Palacios saw Canberra dominate and finally crush St George Budapest 3-1 at Bruce Stadium.

And with more care in front of goal, Canberra would have put away at least another two or three goals.

Top marks to every Canberra player — in particular Palacios for his incredible creativity and goalkeeper Tony Franken.

St George and Soccerco coach Frank Arok was watching two hopefuls for Australia's goalkeeping berth against Czechoslovakia, Franken and Mike Gibson.

Franken won hands down. The visitors forced five corner kicks in the opening minutes and deservedly took the lead when front-runner Graeme Fletcher coolly brought the ball down and stabbed it passed advancing Franken.

At this stage Canberra's defence was too often caught square.

It was only when Jim Cant went back to sweep that the backline improved.

Canberra drew level in the 14th minute with one of the best goals of the season.



Peter Windsor

Palacios took a corner which he stroked along the ground to Canberra's player-coach, Steve Bryant who thumped the ball first-time into the roof of the set, although Mike Gibson did get a hand to it.

In the 25th minute one of Canberra's best players, front-runner Hilton Phillips, ran at the St George defence and from 23 metres decided to chance a shot.

Gibson saved it, then dropped it — and regathered the ball on the goal-line.

Three minutes later, a superb, knee-high shot from St George's Scott Ollerenshaw was somehow saved by Franken.

And that ended a thoroughly entertaining first half, with the teams deadlocked at 1-1.

It was St George that had the first second-half chance to score.

Yet again Franken was Canberra's hero as he got a fist to Fletcher's close-in shot, with Fletcher appearing metres offside.

Seven minutes into the half, the magic and quick thinking of Palacios helped put Canberra ahead.

Palacios was decked by Boogard on the right flank, quickly took the free-kick and found Mike Gibson who neatly brought the ball down and stabbed it

past the grasping fingers of Gibson.

Palacios also was the architect of the concluding goal.

He took a corner, lifting the ball to the head of young defender Jason Dunn who was on the dead-ball line five metres from the post, and Dunn's back-header dipped under the bar, into the far corner.

St George, taking advantage of breaks and Canberra's total commitment to attack, remained dangerous.

Roy Cotton in the 67th minute, wondered what one had to do to beat Franken as the young keeper saved his shot at point-blank range.

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Man of the match:
AUGUSTO PALACIOS
(Canberra)

Territorially, Canberra was superb and played some of its best soccer of the season.

Only in the final minutes did St George look like finding the net.

And when, in the 85th minute, David Ratcliffe kicked Ian Gibson's feet from under him, I was surprised he got only a yellow card.

he should have been sent packing by referee Ken Small who had handed out four yellow cards — three to Canberra and one to St George.

Melba down again

Soccer is struggling, some say, but that's not a view one could have shared after seeing the delight and enthusiasm of 22 youngsters before Canberra's NSL game on Sunday.

They were girls — primary school girls — playing the final of the James Hardie-sponsored ACT Primary Schools knock-out cup. They came from the Hughes and Melba State primary schools, finalists in a competition that began with 18 teams.

And victory went to the Melba girls 3-1 in a penalty shoot-out after the teams were locked on 1-1.

Melba also was better on penalties in the 1985 final by Lyneham. Star of the match was 11-year-old Melba defender Miranda Crean, niece of ACTU president, Simon Crean. Miranda scored for Melba in the penalty shoot-out and was the only survivor of last year's losing side.

Joey Warren presented the James Hardie trophy to Hughes captain Leanne Southern.

— PETER WINDSOR

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REMEMBER, THERE ARE MORE MALTESE IN AUSTRALIA THAN IN MALTA!

Snub of Asia downfall for Socceroos

IN FOCUS

by PETER SCOTT



Pay attention boys and girls. It's World Cup Post-mortem time around the world and why should readers of "Soccer Action" miss out on this, the most exciting of blood sports?

All we Aussie fans sat back and followed with avid attention the month-long affair in Mexico — alas, doing it from afar once again. We all know that the Socceroos stumbled at the last hurdle against Scotland. Some blamed it on bad luck, others on deficiencies in a basically good national squad. But most point the finger at the evil bosses of FIFA and the Asian Confederation.

After all, wasn't it they who forced the Aussies out of their qualifying encounters against the Asians and lumped them in not only with far-away Israel, but also with one of the European also-rans? Isn't this a nasty plot against us by a numerically superior "enemy"? Well, all isn't quite as it seems.

In fact, those of us with memories stretching back 10 years and more can distinctly remember when the Asians actually came knocking at our door, seeking Australian and New Zealand membership in their Confederation.

Believe it or not, on that infamous occasion they were knocked back by our soccer bosses, as were numerous invitations to participate in the Merdeka Asian soccer events such as the Merdeka Cup in Malaysia.

What was the reason for this incredible decision? It seems that the ASF leadership thought it more prestigious to form an Oceania Confederation. After all, the presidents of regional bodies get the plum of a FIFA vice-presidency, you see.

It is now history that Oceania did not become a body of the same standing as UEFA, Asia or even CONCACAF (North and Central America).

Understandably, the Asians gave up on

us, bouncing the Socceroos and Kiwis into the FIFA surplus basket as soon as they could muster the numbers.

It would be nice to cheer you up, dear readers, by stating here that the perpetrators of the most hideously shortsighted decision in the annals of the sport in Australia are long gone and forgotten. Unfortunately, such a statement would not be true.

Numbers game

Two and two can sometimes make five. You don't believe it? Just take a look at the crowd figures in the NSL's Southern Division.

For years and years, the "creative" tailoring of Southern Division operators has been the cause of mirth and hilarity among the soccer and general public and members of the media.

However, this year crowd figures are one of the factors — albeit reasonably minor — which decide the difference between relegation and salvation and with 10 clubs due for the chop it is no longer a laughing matter.

In a series of incredible coincidences many grounds still report crowds in the exact thousands and hundreds, such as, for instance, Heidelberg and Adelaide Juventus, both 2500 the weekend before last. And these are far from isolated instances.

At least the more notorious of their Northern counterparts have enough imagination to tack on digits between 1 and 9 instead of the last two zeroes when they feel the irresistible urge to tell a fib. Come on you guys south of the border, get your act together.

World Cup all-time standings

In brackets: standings before the 1986 World Cup finals:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. (1) Brazil	62	41	10	11	154	63	92
2. (2) West Germany	61	35	12	14	130	85	82
3. (3) Italy	47	25	11	11	79	52	61
4. (4) Argentina	41	22	6	13	77	55	50
5. (5) England	34	15	9	10	47	32	39
6. (12) France	34	16	4	14	71	56	36
7. (6) Uruguay	33	14	7	12	59	47	35
8. (8) USSR	28	14	6	8	49	30	34
9. (7) Hungary	32	15	3	14	87	57	33
10. (9) Poland	25	13	5	7	39	29	31
11. (10) Yugoslavia	28	11	6	11	47	36	28
12. (11) Sweden	28	11	6	11	48	46	28
13. (14) Spain	28	22	5	12	37	34	27
14. (13) Austria	23	11	2	10	38	40	24
15. (15) Czechoslovakia	25	8	5	12	34	40	21
16. (16) Holland	16	8	3	5	32	19	19
17. (17) Chile	21	7	3	11	26	32	17
18. (23) Mexico	29	6	5	18	27	64	17
19. (24) Belgium	21	6	3	12	27	45	15
20. (21) Portugal	9	6	0	3	19	12	12
21. (19) Scotland	17	3	6	8	21	32	12
22. (18) Switzerland	18	5	2	11	28	42	12
23. (20) Peru	15	4	3	8	19	31	11
24. (22) Northern Ireland	13	3	5	13	23	11	11
25. (26) Paraguay	11	3	4	16	25	10	6
26. (—) Denmark	4	3	0	1	10	6	6
27. (25) East Germany	6	2	2	2	5	5	6
28. (27) USA	7	3	0	4	12	21	6
29. (31) Bulgaria	16	0	6	10	11	35	6
30. (28) Wales	5	1	3	1	4	5	5
31. (40) Morocco	7	1	3	5	8	5	5
32. (30) Algeria	6	2	1	3	2	10	5
33. (29) Romania	8	2	1	5	12	17	5
34. (32) Tunisia	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
35. (33) Cameroon	3	0	3	0	1	1	3
36. (34) Cuba	3	1	1	1	5	12	3
37. (35) North Korea	4	1	1	2	5	9	3
38. (36) Turkey	3	1	0	2	10	11	2
39. (37) Honduras	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
40. (38) Israel	3	1	0	2	1	3	2
41. (39) Kuwait	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
42. (41) Australia	3	0	1	2	0	5	1
43. (42) Colombia	3	0	1	2	5	11	1
44. (43) Iran	3	0	1	2	2	8	1
45. (47) South Korea	5	0	1	4	4	23	1
46. (44) Norway	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
47. (45) Egypt	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
48. (—) Iraq	3	0	0	3	1	4	0
49. (—) Canada	3	0	0	3	0	5	0
50. (46) Dutch East Indies	1	0	0	1	0	6	0
51. (48) New Zealand	3	0	0	3	2	12	0
52. (49) Haiti	3	0	0	3	2	14	0
53. (50) Zaire	3	0	0	3	0	14	0
54. (51) Bolivia	3	0	0	3	0	16	0
55. (52) El Salvador	6	0	0	6	1	22	0

Valdano: Diego's sidekick

By PAUL MOON

Although 1986 has already been designated the year of Maradona rather than the year of Argentina, it would be totally unfair to dismiss the new World Cup holder — as a one-man band.

None of Maradona's teammates would have looked out of place in any previous World Cup-winning combinations. Certainly Jorge Valdano fully deserves the medal presented to him in Mexico City. Ironically, Valdano believed he had forfeited any chance of international glory within two years of becoming a professional footballer. The forceful winger set his sights on the lucrative European scene immediately upon joining the paid ranks and was only 19 when crossing the Atlantic to further his career.

Despite having helped Newell's Old Boys win the Argentine First Division championship in 1974, appeared in the following season's Libertadores Cup and represented Argentina at an international youth tournament in France, he was hardly a "name" player and consequently no "name" clubs in Europe displayed any interest in him. Alaves, a Spanish Second Division outfit seeking inexpensive South American talent, did and it was Alaves that obtained the talented but raw teenager.

Argentina national coach Luis Cesar Menotti had made it clear that he would consider very few, if any, foreign-based players for this selection. Playing in the obscurity of Spanish League Division Two, Valdano held no pretensions about attracting Menotti's attention.

Though the chain-smoking coach paid no heed to Valdano's progress at Alaves, many Spanish First Division clubs monitored it closely.

In 1978, the lanky Argentine joined Zaragoza, one of Europe's top sides in the 1960s but then experiencing a lean period. Here he found in Paraguayan Ray Amarillo a perfect striking partner and the two-pronged South American attack inspired a long-awaited, much-saved, revival.

Still, Valdano remained out of Menotti's thoughts until a sudden spate of injuries and form reversals drastically depleted the number of quality flankmen available to him just as the World Cup defence drew close.

A mere three months before mundial '82, the Zaragoza star was called up by Argentina and, at the age of 26, he made his debut against USSR in Buenos Aires. He had a quiet game and was substituted 10 minutes from the end.

Three more disappointing appear-



• Jorge Valdano

ances followed before the Argentinian squad set off for Spain, where Valdano faced Belgium (as a 63rd minute substitute) and Hungary. An injury in the latter game brought World Cup to a premature end. Defeats by Italy and Brazil signalled the end of an era for Argentinian ball and the start of a rebuilding programme, with Maradona as keystone. Valdano, his age and international record against him, appeared to have no future with the "Gaucho".

Back in Zaragoza's colors, Valdano went from strength to strength by 1984 had become acknowledged one of the Spanish League's foremost performers. In July of that year, Valdano paid a substantial sum to acquire his services — much to the rage of arch rival FC Barcelona.

"Barca" believed it held an option on the talented forward (resulting from a clause in a complex transfer agreement drawn up when he moved from the Catalans to Zaragoza during the previous season) and to court in an attempt to prove itself failed, but the incident left Alaves in a lot of mouths.

Valdano has contributed a goal to Real's successes during past two years. A consistent scorer and creator in domestic football, he notched a goal in the UEFA Cup Final (and missed a penalty) and two in this year's tour de force.

Following a string of insipid performances by a team comprised solely of Argentinian-based players, Menotti's successor Carlos Bilardo brought five European residents, including Valdano, for the World Cup qualifiers year — a hurdle Argentina overcame though far from convincingly.

Bilardo constantly stated, right to the time he named his squad for Mexico, that Maradona was the one individual assured of a trip and, if he came from the Argentine First Division, it transpired that seven "forwards", Valdano among them, were required and they proved the keystone of Argentina's triumph.

The ball-carrying and shooting abilities of the Argentine No. 11 are unlikely to be on view in Italy four years hence (when he will be 34), but Valdano must be among the favorites for next season's European Champions Cup and Valdano will certainly relish the opportunity to shine in tournament the world's most fan club has not won since 1966.

And so we have not seen the last of Jorge Valdano.

Cynicism, cheating, now all the rage

By WALTER PLESS

The age of chivalry is dead as far as the game of soccer is concerned.

Diego Maradona, the Argentinian wonderboy, provided firm evidence of that when he punched home the opening goal in the World Cup quarter-final against England.

England lost that match and Maradona, speaking at a post-match media conference, had the cheek to attribute the "goal" partly to the hand of God and partly to the hand of Maradona.

Maradona showed in the World Cup that he is the best player in the world. His overall play was unsurpassed and some of his goals were brilliant.

This only goes to make the handball incident worse, because a player of his standing should not have to resort to such illegal methods.

The episode has, in my eyes at least, tarnished Maradona's image.

It is highly unlikely, however, that he will cease to be regarded as a demigod by his millions of fans around the globe.

"He's a professional and he had to do it," they'll say. "It is, after all, the World Cup, and winning is what matters, not sportsmanship."

There is a rather famous story about a Spanish centre-forward who, several years ago, deliberately put the ball out for a goal-kick when confronted with an open goal.

The opposing goalkeeper had been knocked senseless in a goalmouth scramble and the centre-forward felt that it would have been unfair to score in such circumstances.

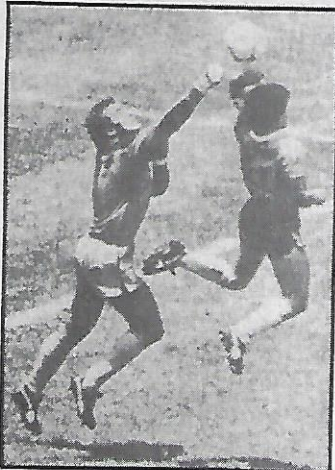
I can see most coaches, players and fans holding their heads in horror at the very thought!

I'm certainly not advocating chivalry to that extent either, but the incident does say a lot about how soccer was played at that time.

I've even heard of players deliberately missing a penalty kick because they felt the penalty had been unjustly awarded.

Nowadays, one occasionally sees a player kick the ball out of play so that an injured opponent may receive treatment.

It is much more common, however, to see players cynically fouling opponents who are about to break through and score.



• Diego Maradona scores his handball goal against England goalkeeper Peter Shilton in Mexico.

It is becoming commonplace to read about bribery scandals: Italy, West Germany, Belgium, Argentina, Brazil and Yugoslavia are just a few countries that come readily to mind in that regard.

It's not unusual to read of players like Bulgaria's World Cup goalkeeper, Mikhailov, being reprieved from long suspensions (life, in his case) because they are needed by club or country.

Before the World Cup, associations and players have only themselves to blame, therefore, if people stay away from the game in their tens of thousands around the world because of the cynicism and the chicanery which is prevalent.

After the World Cup, Maradona appealed to the referees to protect the ball artists, whose skills were in danger of being nullified by the hackers and the hard men.

While he was about it, he should also have told referees to keep a special eye out for the swindlers on the field and for those who use sleight of hand to turn events in their favor.

Personally, I don't care whether anyone kicks lumps out of Maradona from now on.

In fact, I wouldn't shed a tear if he tripped as he ran onto the field and bit his fingers as he was crossing himself.

Maradona may have escaped the ruthless Andoni Goicoechea of Athletic Bilbao when he moved from Spain to Italy, and he may have won the World Cup for Argentina.

But, I am consoled by the fact that he will continue to play for Napoli in the Italian League next season, for that means that he is destined to encounter Fiorentina's Claudio Gentile on a soccer pitch at least twice a year.

Euro titles are next for King Ceulemans

By PAUL MOON

Jan Ceulemans' coming of age as a world-class linkman during the recent Mundial presents something of an irony, for the Belgian started in midfield as a schoolboy and returned there only after enjoying many years as a top class striker.

Born on February 28, 1957, Ceulemans joined his home-town club Liège when he was only nine years old and happily played in midfield throughout the junior grades until the Liège under 14 selection found itself with a glut of competent midfielders and he was asked to become a striker.

The move upfield resulted in a flood of goals which swept him into Liège's First Division team at 17 and his country's senior side of 20. In 1978, Bruges paid \$500,000 (then a Belgian record transfer fee) to bring Ceulemans to West Flanders.

At the time, Bruges was among Europe's foremost sides, having appeared in the finals of both the European Champions' Cup and UEFA Cup during the previous two seasons. Ceulemans was seen as a worthy successor to the great Raoul Lambert; the man to spearhead the club's quest for greater glories.

After an indifferent debut season in Bruges' colors, he hit his straps during the 1979-80 campaign, scoring 29 of the First Division champions' 76 goals.

The 1980 European Championship finals saw him graduate to international stardom. His speedy, forceful running and opportunism near goal were ideally suited to Belgium's counter-attacking style. Ceulemans' surging runs down both flanks were a major feature of a tournament in which the "Diables Rouges" finished as runners up — their best-ever performance on the international stage.

The 1980 Belgian Footballer of the Year accolade confirmed the tall, blond striker's standing.

Some of Europe's wealthier clubs were now gaining an interest in Ceulemans and, in 1981, it appeared that AC Milan would sign him.

Milan Bruges and the player had agreed to transfer terms, but Ceulemans' elderly mother pleaded with her son to stay in Belgium which he did, thereby rejecting the opportunity of enhanced fame and greater fortune.

Shortly after turning down the Milanese, Ceulemans suffered a dramatic and enduring form loss. This was attributed to a persistent groin injury and the startling decline of Bruges. The former European giant was now battling against relegation at the bottom of Belgium's first division.

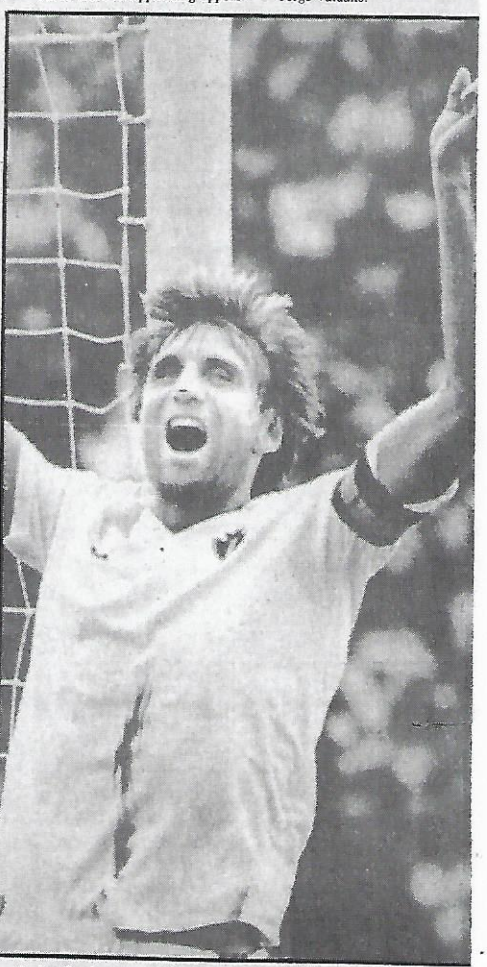
Lack of sharpness may have prompted coach Guy Thys to play him in midfield during the 1982 World Cup finals. Whatever the reason, the move flopped badly, as Ceulemans flourished in each of Belgium's encounters.

A Bruges revival coincided with its star's return to top form and full fitness. No longer an out-and-out striker, more a deep-lying forward, he produced excellent performances at the 1984 European Championship finals, during which Belgium narrowly failed to reach the semi-finals.

By the time this year's World Cup finals came round, Ceulemans had evolved to be an almost conventional attacking midfielder for both club and country.

The 1985-86 season had already yielded him a Belgian Cup winners' medal and, again, the country's Footballer of the Year award before the World Cup finals started. In Mexico, his probing through balls and fast break forward provided the platform for Belgium's advancement to the last four — its greatest Mundial achievement, and confirmed his standing as Belgium's football king.

Now, Ceulemans can look forward, with considerable confidence, to the forthcoming European Championship and, should he remain free of injury and retain form, the 20-odd international appearances required for him to overhaul Paul van Himst's long-standing Belgian record of 84



• Jan Ceulemans celebrates after scoring for Belgium against Spain during the World Cup finals.

Nelson—Polonia won't go down

By CRAIG MAC KENZIE

Polonia won't be relegated from the Victorian State League this year; Alex Marshall is the only player in Victoria who can win a game off his own boot; Bobby McGuinness is the best forward in Victoria and team spirit among Frankston Pines players is non-existent.

They're some of the views of 32-year-old Polonia midfielder Rob Nelson, in his 10th season in Australian soccer and the man who had the 1981 Victorian Rothmans Medals snatched out his grasp by Charlie Egan right at the end of voting.

But Nelson is relieved that he never won that Rothmans Medal. "I was starting to worry towards the end of the voting because I was so drunk there was no way I could have made a speech. I have a pretty vivid memory of that night, particularly me and Norrie Pate with our heads lying in between all these empty wine bottles," said Nelson with a laugh.

"I was what I call the designated loser that night. It was Jim Train's turn the following year when Vince Bannon got up in the last round of votes to win.

"There's nothing sadder than that every year some player leads right up until the last few votes. I think that's set up that way."

"When Vince won he backed me at the halfway stage. I'm only sorry that I didn't return the gesture that night."

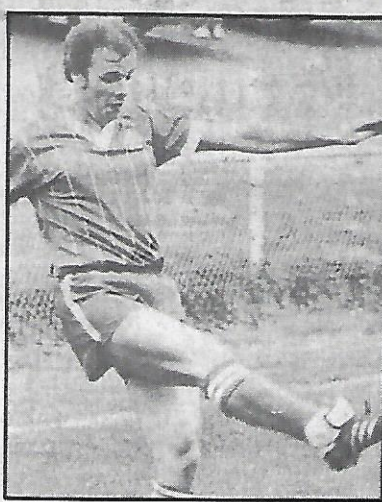
Nelson was born in the Gorbals in Glasgow. He lived in Hospital Street, as did Frank McLintock of Arsenal and Leicester City fame.

"That makes McLintock the second most famous player from Hospital Street," Nelson quipped.

Nelson spent two seasons with Benburb Juniors and two with Renfrew before his best friend, Peter Lewis, then with Sunshine, arranged for Nelson to come to Australia and play in the Victorian State League.

Nelson arrived in time to play the last 13 league games of the 1977 season. A week before his arrival, Sunshine had parted company with coach Bobby McLachlan. Nelson played under Billy Cree for three games and in all had four different coaches during the second half of that season.

"The highlights of my six seasons with Sunshine were winning the Buffalo League Cup, playing in the same side as Tommy Cumming and Peter Lewis, getting to the final of the 1981 Dockerty Cup and the tremendous camaraderie that always existed among the players there. I'll never forget that charge of Olympic Park. There was a minute to go before halftime and it was 0-0 when Mick took this almighty swing at the ball and missed it completely. In nipped Paul Lewis and we were 1-0 down. Big Peter (Lewis) was playing with Gully



● Rob Nelson, in action for his former club North Dandenong. Picture: LES SHORROCK.

then and much to his delight, scored their second goal near the end, the big bugger."

Sunshine amalgamated with George Cross late in 1982 but by then Nelson had had enough of travelling to and from training. Bob Guthrie, a friend of Nelson's from their days in Scotland, was president of North Dandenong, newly promoted to Second Division of what was then the Metropolitan Leagues. Guthrie offered Nelson the player-coaching post at North and he accepted. North paid Sunshine \$5,000 for Nelson.

"I signed my brother Dave from Sunshine, Tom Coates and finally Arthur McMillan, who all were top players for me. We finished second to St Albans that year and while we were promoted to First Division they jumped straight into State League. We should have won the title. We blew it in our second last game, a local derby against Dandenong City.

"The supporters decided that they'd go to Dandenong City's grounds in rented Rolls Royces. Me and Guthrie were against it but there was nothing we could do. So we rolled to play Dandenong City, who need to win to avoid relegation. They did, 1-0. They had the greater incentive that day but having said that, derbies can go either way anyway. They tend to be a toss-of-the-coin job."

Nelson's second season with North, in 1984, was to be his last. He signed Steve McCombe, George Gillan, Mick Edwards and Stan Davidson but three games into the league season suffered a major setback when McMillan broke his leg against Moreland.

Nelson still had a strong side though which finished third in First Division behind league champion Springvale City and runners-up Thornstown.

"We ruined Thornstown's title hopes by drawing 1-1 with them in the last game. I scored our goal and wee Marcelo D'Amico never lets me forget it."

D'Amico is a soccer scribe and has had a long association with Thornstown.

Guthrie was replaced by Tony Wright as North president at the end of that season and virtually an entirely new committee voted into office. Guthrie rejoined North as president earlier this year but back in 1984 Nelson and Wright clashed.

Continued page 15

'Ketchup' to make a big splash on NSW scene

By PAUL GOODWIN

The NSW State League scene has been enlivened by the presence this season of Peter Tkachuk, scorer of five goals and fast gaining a reputation as a specialist of long-range shooting.

Tkachuk is something of a mystery man to followers of soccer in NSW and when his name first appeared among the scorers, there were many who wondered just where he had sprung from!

His father, Antin, was born in the Ukraine and after the war went to England where he met and married an Irish girl, Rose, and they settled at St Albans, a little to the north of London. Soccer always has been in Peter's blood. He first played at Primary School in Hertfordshire, later representing the county schools, before going on to play senior soccer with Isthmian League club Hemel Hempstead, after a brief spell with Barnet. Always adventurous, he travelled extensively and one of his journeys took him to Melbourne, where he arrived with a friend in 1981.

His continuing interest in soccer led to his participation in training sessions at Heidelberg and Juventus, but difficulties in obtaining a visa held up his playing debut until mid-May.

When he eventually turned out for Juventus he made only a handful of appearances before a badly bruised shin, which refused to heal, later turned poisonous.

It was much later that the wound healed and by then the season was as good as over. Doctors had warned Tkachuk that his playing career had been in jeopardy.

In October that year he took out permanent residency in order to continue his stay and approached Croydon City in 1982, being aware of its strong Anglo-Australian ties.

He is known to his mates as "Ketchup", and is a bit of a joker. He has been known to liven up the odd end-of-season function with a lively Cossack dance, which he threatens to rehearse whenever he nabs hal-trick.

Following the Croydon spell, he was persuaded by Frank Munro to link up with Metropolitan League side Hamlyn Rangers and he was part of their Second Division championship-winning team in 1983.

In 1985 he moved to Sydney as keen as ever on soccer and the strongly-built Englishman began training with first Artarmon then Manly, both State League clubs on the North Shore. It was a major blow when a torn hamstring curtailed his career before it got off the ground in Sydney. When his elder brother announced that he was getting married in England, Peter decided to cut his losses and return there, influenced, no doubt, by the disappointment of missing out on playing his favorite sport.

It wasn't long, however, before Peter realised that England was not for him and back he came in November 1985, this time determined to settle in Sydney. Conscious of the need to shed many pounds to get down to his ideal playing weight, he looked up Yorkshireman Denis Ford, now in his second season as coach of Ku-Ring-Gai and a renowned conditioner. It was Tkachuk's idea to play as a midfield-



● Peter Tkachuk

er, a position he had occupied at a number of other clubs, and when Ford suggested a role supporting the front runners, Tkachuk had some misgivings. After a while his well-polished dead-ball skills, accurate long range shooting and a hunger for goals led to him revealing in his new role and he lost weight, rapidly.

Down to his best weight again, it was with great personal satisfaction that Tkachuk got his name on the scoresheet in his first State League appearance for Ku-Ring-Gai, almost tearing apart the net with a superb free kick. Just to put icing on the cake, a fortnight later Penrith was stunned when he repeated the feat with the other foot to notch a goal that will linger long in his memory.

Further goals followed in one-on-one confrontations which he delights in and already Tkachuk is talking in terms of 12 goals as his target, a figure he has achieved previously during a season.

A mechanical engineer, specialising in drafting and surveying Tkachuk has been working as a sales engineer, but now is ready to work in his usual field once more.

Listing his most memorable goal as "the last one", he is hoping that there will be plenty more goals this season.

A few weeks back, Ku-Ring-Gai bleeding some of its younger players, Tkachuk moved to neighboring Warringah-Freshwater, just beating the June 30 transfer deadline. With many English players at the club, he settled in quickly and in his first appearance against Avala, opened his account with a long range shot, catching the visitors' goalie off his line. That goal should be the first of many in his new colors.

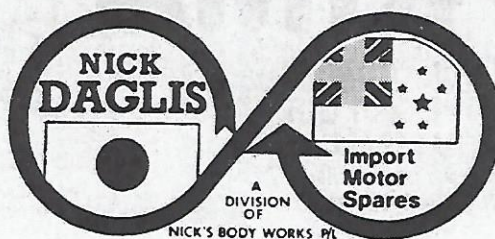
The name "Tkachuk" no longer will be a mysterious one by the time the 1986 NSW State League season is finished.

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POLONIA CAN DO IT!

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

"That'll stick it up MacKenzie," said a prominent member of the Melbourne Hungaria camp after his team's 2-0 win over Fawknor last weekend. Now, it's my turn, so I'll predict that Polonia will stick it right up Melbourne this Sunday in their big relegation battle at Raleigh Reserve.

Gerry Bennett is in the Polonia midfield now. He should have been there a couple of matches ago. His dig is vital in this area especially against a very competitive midfielder in Melbourne's Robert Morrey. Their battle should be well worth watching.

If Polonia loses, it virtually will be doomed to relegation. That's as much motivation as any player needs. Polonia will be every bit as aggressive as

Melbourne, so it will come down to a matter of quality and that should tip the scales in Polonia's favor.

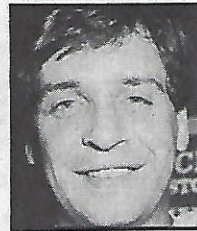
As predicted in this column last week (well, if I don't pat myself on the back no-one else will) Croydon did the business against Springvale and on Sunday at Croydon Park it's the turn of St. Albans Dinamo to run into the might of last year's State League champion.

If Croydon is every bit as competitive as it was against the Vales it will win.

Jim MacLean controlled things in midfield against Springvale as betting the best midfielder in the league. Here he'll come up against Mark Wilson who can't be taken lightly. Wilson has a huge heart, no small measure of skill and has justified the faith shown in him by Dinamo coach Tony Vrzina, who signed Wilson from Northcote earlier this year.

Springvale will be a sitting duck for other title aspirants Croydon and Box Hill, if it loses to Caulfield at Princes Park on Saturday. The Vales have lost their last two games and desperately need to get back on the winning trail. I think they can.

Caulfield expects to greet English import Paul Harris today (Wednesday). He was due to arrive last week but immigration red tape stopped him.



● Jim MacLean

Neil Garvey, a key man on the left side of Springvale's midfield, hobbled off just 36 minutes into the game against Croydon last weekend and is doubtful for the Caulfield clash.

Box Hill hasn't been beaten for 10 weeks but Morwell is hoping to dent the Hillmen's championship hopes when they clash at North Crigian Reserve on Saturday.

It's great to see Box Hill left back Harry Hird doing so well after being sidelined for two seasons due to knee reconstruction surgery. Hird is a cultured performer. His displays of late have pushed Alan Roodhouse out of the left back spot and into a wide midfield role and Roodhouse is starting to come to terms with the demands of the position.

In fact, if Pedro Ramos can hit top form, Box Hill's midfield is one of the finest in the competition. That just might tip the scales in Box Hill's favor on Saturday.

Western Suburbs have claimed a couple of big scalps in the past two weeks and Thomastown should hold no fears for Jimmy Kondlie's men at Ralph Reserve on Sunday while Fawknor looks too strong for Ringwood Wilhelm.

mina at Smith Reserve on the same day.

Northcote coach Roy MacLaren, on Aston Villa's coaching staff for 11 seasons before joining Northcote this year, must have been happy with the way his charges took care of Thomastown in the second half of last weekend's clash.

Northcote, however, takes on a revitalised Frankston Pines outfit at John Cain Reserve this Saturday but I've got a hunch that the Northcote just might sneak a point from what should be a very entertaining encounter.

This weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

Caulfield v SPRINGVALE City at Princes Park, 3pm.

Morwell Falcons v BOX HILL at North Crigian Reserve, 3pm.

Northcote v Frankston Pines (draw) at John Cain Reserve, 3pm.

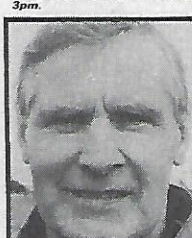
SUNDAY

CROYDON v St. Albans Dinamo at Croydon Park, 3pm.

WESTERN SUBURBS v Thomastown at Ralph Reserve, 3pm.

FAWKNER v Ringwood Wilhelm at Smith Reserve, 3pm.

POLONIA v Melbourne Hungaria at Raleigh Reserve, 3pm.



● Roy MacLaren

Constantinou, Toal lead onslaught

Thomastown 1 Northcote 2

Scorers: Arcoraci 44th (T); Drakeford 56th, Toal 75th (N). Venue: Partridge Reserve, Sunday.

Northcote turned on a powerhouse second-half performance to deservedly take both points in a highly competitive game at Partridge Reserve.

The game looked well within Thomastown's reach during the first half as it created the greater number of chances.

In the 5th minute, Thomastown midfielder Nino Di Martino burst clear of the Northcote defence and from the edge of the penalty area hit a shot which beat keeper Mark Turudia but sweeper Arthur Patiniotis recovered extremely well to clear the ball off the goal line.

In the 10th minute, Thomastown skipper George McMillan flicked a header superbly to midfielder Kevin Carfara and his subsequent shot from the edge of the area was well saved by Turudia.

Thomastown took the lead in the 44th minute when Di Martino's corner was firmly headed into goal by an unmarked Frank Arcoraci.

Man of the match: **PETER CONSTANTINOU** (Northcote City)

Northcote's equalizing goal came in the 56th minute when Toal side-stepped Pianalto on the back line on the right side of the Thomastown penalty area. Toal's cross was headed away by defender Mike Drakeford and his subsequent shot, although mistimed, sneaked into the goal just under the cross bar.

Northcote took the lead when a superb crossfield pass by midfielder Alex Gannopoulos found man of the match Peter Constantinou on the left of the Thomastown penalty area. Constantinou hit a stunning first time volley against the bar but Toal, following in, slid down to knock the ball in for what was to be the winner.

Northcote strikers Toal and Constantinou gave Thomastown defenders Pianalto and Arcoraci a very difficult time.

— JOHN JAMES



● Northcote's Arthur Patiniotis — stopped Nino Di Martino from giving Thomastown an early lead at Partridge Reserve on Sunday.

Buffalo State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SPRINGVALE	10	5	3	22	13	25
CROYDON	10	3	4	35	17	23
BOX HILL	8	7	3	30	15	23
ST. ALB. DINAMO	7	7	4	27	17	21
Frank. Pines	7	7	4	24	17	21
Fawknor	8	4	5	17	12	20
West. Suburbs	8	4	6	28	25	20
Morwell Falc.	7	2	9	30	31	16
Thomastown	5	6	7	16	19	16
Caulfield	7	2	4	27	33	16
Northcote	5	5	8	26	34	15
R. Wilhelm	4	5	9	15	39	13
Melb. Hungaria	2	8	15	26	12	12
Polonia	2	5	11	23	9	9

FRANKSTON PINES 3 (Armstrong 14th, Dick 18th, McGorran 88th) **MORWELL FALCONS 1** (Bingham 85th) at Monterey Reserve, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES Boland 5 — Thurlow 6, Cumming 8, Macleod 5, Cullen 5 — Ross 7, Webster (in) Ferris 30th, 6), Miller 5 — Armstrong 8, Dick 8, McGorran 5, Coach Danny McGorran.

MORWELL FALCONS Eacott 6 — Bingham 6, Bruns 6, Clarke 6, M. Cassar 6 — E. Cassar 7, O'Callaghan 6, Tutill 7 — Stirtson 5, Verechia 5, A. Cassar 7 (T. van Baar H.T. 5) Coach Dave O'Connor.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 Armstrong (FP), 2 Dick (FP), 1 Cumming (FP).

ST. ALBANS DINAMO 1 (Krajacic 88th) **WESTERN SUBURBS 2** (Smallman 4th, Hamill 82nd) at Churchill Reserve, Saturday.

ST. ALBANS DINAMO M. Grgic 5 — Dragovic 5 (Colina 71st), Brkijack 6, Krajacic 6, Ramjak 5 — Rastocic 5, M. Wilson 5 (Caran 78th), Culina 5, Kuzman 7 — Lloyd 5, Duzel 6 Coach Tony Vrzina.

WESTERN SUBURBS Circ 6 — McLeod 5, Dimovski 5, Kagioglou 5, Stefanidis 5 — Beattie 5 (Hamill 56th), Stenson 5, Farmer (Tuck 29th, S), Palmancicotti 6 — McGuinness 7, Smallman 6 Coach Jimmy Kondlie.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 McGuinness (WS), 2 Kuzman (St. A.), 1 Krajacic (St. A.).

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA 2 (L. Theodosopoulos 25th, Sutherland 76th) **FAWKNER 0** at J.T. Gray Reserve, Saturday.

MELBOURNE HUNGARIA Kiss 7 — Szabo 6, Bird 8, S. Wild 6, Sutherland 6 — Reynolds 6, Morrey 7, Tzambazis 5 (in) Debono H.T. 5), Beltschey 6, L. Theodosopoulos 8, Mills 6 Coach Ian McCarthy.

FAWKNER R. Wilson 5 — Mancinelli 5, Walsh 7, Schipano 6, Bordignon 6 — Nizon 7, Sabbatino 6, Flavell 7, Di Cecco 5 (Feria 77th) — Tuffield 6, Cozzella 6 Coach Peter Boyle.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 Bird (MH), 2 L. Theodosopoulos (MH), 1 Morrey (MH).

BOX HILL 2 (Griffin 38th, 72nd) **POLONIA 1** (Bennett 42nd) at Wembley Park, Sunday.

BOX HILL McKinley 8 — McPhee 7, Davidson 8, D. Hennessy 8, Hird 9 — Ramos 7, Hughes 7, Burton 7, Roodhouse 7 — McKinna 7, Griffin 7 Coach Keith Webster.

POLONIA Dzielakowski 4 — Drinocky 7, Kotziamichalis 7, Smolarek 6 — Troglitz 7, Bennett 8, R. Nelson 7, P. Czupnik 7 (Lipiarz H.T. 6) — Wycisk 7, Marshall 7, Warszawski 6 (Przybyla 75th) Coach Miron Bleberg.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 Hird (BH), 2 Bennett (P), 1 D. Hennessy (BH).

THOMASTOWN 1 (Arcoraci 44th) **NORTHCOTE 2** (Drakeford 56th, Toal 75th) at Partridge Reserve, Sunday.

THOMASTOWN Raponi 6 — Rainey 6, Cosentino 6, Arcoraci 6, Pianalto 5 — Carfara 5 (Fishery 70th), Kerr 6, Di Martino 7, Coyle 6 — G. McMillan 7, Higgins 6 Coach Mike Lynn.

NORTHCOTE Turudia 6 — Soladis 6, Patiniotis 7, Kouremenos 6, J. Constantinou 6 — Drakeford 7 (in) Small 60th), Toro 8, Gannopoulos 8 — Bekiaris 6, P. Constantinou 9, Toal 7, Coach Roy MacLaren.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 P. Constantinou (N), 2 Gannopoulos (N), 1 Toro (N).

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 0 CAULFIELD 0 at Jubilee Park, Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA Kasimas 7 — Meyer 6, Corke 7, Bates 8, Verniers 7 — Thomson 7, Bakker 7, McKinlay 7 (Wernys 75th) — Mensink 6 (Presta 83rd), Storm 6, Nijholt 7 Coach Tom Kelly.

CAULFIELD Alexandropoulos 7 — Bitsonis 7, Brooks 7, Louitos 7, Tataridis 6 — Taylor 7, Tofani 6, Theodoros 7 — Sahridis 7, Semunik 7, Filippou 7 (Vagias 75th) Coach Takis Svingos.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 Bates (RW), 2 Bitsonis (C), 1 Filippou (C).

SPRINGVALE CITY 0 CROYDON 1 (French) 75th at Ross Reserve, Sunday.

SPRINGVALE CITY Whiteside 7 — G. Bannion 6, Adams 7, Bissinger 7, Hobson 7 — J. Nelson 7, Bell 6, Garvey 5 (in) Bentley 30th, 6) — Deans 6, Athersych 5, House 5 (M. Wild 78th) Coach Bobby McLachlan.

CROYDON Blasby 7 — Brown 7, Tansey 7, Beech 7, Tait 6 — McDonald 6, MacLean 6, Livingstone 6 — Humble 6, French 7, Brogan 6 (in) Cooper H.T. 7) Coach Peter Ollerton.

Best three for Ameco award: 3 MacLean (C), 2 Hobson (S), 1 Brown (C).

AMETCO TRAVEL AWARD

Ametco Travel, in conjunction with VSF Travel, will provide a return trip to Singapore for the 1986 State League Player of the Year.

Leading votegetters:
18 — D. Hennessy (Box Hill), Adams (Springvale), Dick (Pines)
17 — Bell (Springvale)
16 — Burton (Box Hill)
15 — L. Theodosopoulos (Melbourne)
14 — Krajacic (Dinamo)
13 — M. Wilson (Dinamo)
12 — O'Callaghan (Morwell)
11 — French (Croydon), Cozzella (Fawknor), Corke (Wilhelm), Pianalto (Thomastown)

By MIKE LYNN

Melbourne 2 Fawknor 0

Scorers: L. Theodosopoulos 105th, Sutherland 76th.

Venue: J. T. Gray Reserve, Saturday.

Fawknor's final four aspirations took a severe blow when beaten by second-bottom State League team Melbourne Hungaria in a competitive but poor quality game at J.T. Gray Reserve.

Fawknor only can blame itself as it should have gone two goals up in the opening minutes.

In the first minute, midfielder Gordon Flavell won possession on the edge of the Melbourne penalty area and played the ball square to fellow midfielder Frank Sabbatino. This young player's excellent vision enabled him to play a delightful through ball for Dave Nixon who only had Melbourne goalkeeper Joe Kiss to beat but somehow managed to squeeze his shot beyond the far post.

In the 6th minute, strikers Ian Tuffield and Bruno Cozzella combined well on the halfway line allowing Cozzella to race clear of the Melbourne defence. Cozzella reached the Melbourne penalty area all alone but his shot, although beating Kiss, hit the post and travelled along the goal line allowing Kiss to clear before Cozzella could follow-up.

Melbourne took the lead against the run of play in the 25th minute and with a really good goal.

The move began when midfielder Robert Morrey won possession inside the Melbourne half. Morrey played the ball to recent signing from Green Gully, Peter Reynolds, who made a strong surging run at the Fawknor defence before playing the ball wide to a completely unmarked Robert Belteky. His superb right wing cross to the far post found striker Lou

Man of the match:

JOHN BIRD

(Melb. Hungaria)

zella combined well on the halfway line allowing Cozzella to race clear of the Melbourne defence. Cozzella reached the Melbourne penalty area all alone but his shot, although beating Kiss, hit the post and travelled along the goal line allowing Kiss to clear before Cozzella could follow-up.

This was highlighted in the 57th minute when a free kick taken by skipper John Bird was superbly flicked on by Morrey to striker Dave Mills who controlled the ball then turned and hammered a hard drive that Wilson was pleased to touch over for a corner.

Melbourne made sure of victory with a second goal in 76th minute scored by full back Don Sutherland. The goal eventually cleared the ball from a corner to Sutherland at the edge of the penalty area. For some reason Sutherland was allowed to travel with the ball well into the Fawknor penalty area without a challenge and from eight metres his hard, low drive beat Wilson.

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11 — Dick (Pines), Morovic (Dinamo)
9 — Griffin (Box Hill), French, Humble (Croydon), Cozzella (Fawknor), Storm (Wilhelm)

mina, McGuinness (Suburbs).
8 — Zemunik (Caulfield).
7 — Brogan (Croydon), J. Nelson, House (Springvale)

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● Carcioffo Rangers, Group B leaders at the Donvale Centre, back row: Ivan Stocco, Daniel Cesarin, Adrian Tocchetto. Front: Steven Dalcastello, Silvio Sella. Missing: M. Gattino.

The Thomastown League had its last round of practice matches last week before the serious side of competitive soccer begins.

Teams have shown some fine form especially newcomers Celtic, Shamrocks and Internationals.

The Celtics, with outdoor soccer man John Metaxas in the side, had a very comfortable win against Northern United, overpowering it 6-1.

Old competitors Furious Five and Vasco de Gama had another encounter, but this time Vasco de Gama came out the victor with Albert Stasi, last year's top scorer, putting five goals away in a 7-4 victory.

Furious Five have recruited a new player but as yet he has not settled into the rigors of indoor soccer. Time will tell how quickly he adjusts.

Old favourites on show were Gladiators and Wanderers who surprised by scoring eight goals between them and showing a lot of determination and enthusiasm for the coming season.

The closest game of the night was between Marazico, which hasn't played for a season and Shamrocks, who displayed a lot of talent and judging by the way their goals were scored they have a well-balanced combination.

The game ended with a 7-5 victory to Shamrocks but both teams played excellent soccer.

DOSSIS BRILLIANT!

Grasshoppers 4 Nacionals 3

This Preston League practice match began very well for Nacionals who at half-time had a 2-1 lead.

The brilliance of their keeper Spiro Dosis caught the eye of Eliminator coach Dean Poropat and he sees a bright future for the young man who stopped everything in his path.

Most of the shots came from the talented Velce Kondinski who scored three goals but had many shots saved by Dosis.

The game ended with a great goal by Kyriakopoulos for Grasshoppers and a hat-trick for A. Simons for Nacionals.

We may not see much of Kondinski in indoor soccer from this year. He is doing his Higher School Certificate and has to concentrate on his studies.

Euronations 7 Ugly Juventus 4

Preston champions Euronations scored a brilliant 7-3 win over Ugly Juventus in this practice match.

Terry Frangakis played his usual superb game, concentrating on scoring and winning this match for his team.

Meanwhile, Ugly Juventus concentrated their efforts on fouls, which may have cost them the game, especially in the second half.

Both sides nevertheless played a good game of indoor soccer and the Juventus side picked up a number of tips from the clever Euronations side.

Goodonya 10 Mutundies R. 0

Well, what more can you say but "goodonya" Goodonya?

With a massive 10-0 victory over Mutundies the boys are certainly in there with a vengeance this season.

George Thalestis put four goals away while Peter Markakis ended up with five.

Mutundies were like lost sheep. Pull your socks up Mutundies! The season starts this week and we know you've got more to offer than what we saw here.

Makedonian R. 4 United Nations 0

In this Youth League practice game, the Raiders had an easy time in downing United Nations by four goals.

Two goals came from Salantiolu and two from Salas.

The Raiders made things tough for United Nations as they could not penetrate the Raiders' defence.

Red Star 7 Gladstone Park 1

Red Star played a tremendous game.

The team is consistent and plays as a team, not individuals, which is the downfall of many indoor soccer teams.

Red Star players shared the goalscoring honors.

Gladstone's only goal came from Frank Garriera in the first half, but nothing much happened after that as far as Gladstone was concerned.

Zaggers 4 Athens Strikers 2

Zaggers took on Strikers in what was an interesting game, especially at half time when scores were locked at 1-1.

Both teams played well in the first half but the break did not do Strikers much good as they only could put one goal away in the second period.

Remco Hager's hat-trick indicated the effort put in by his team and Zaggers will be hard to beat this season.

MICHELOUDAKAS TOP SCORER, CANONS BOMBARD BONDS

Kaiser Chiefs 4 Riviera 2

This Donvale League Group One game was the highlight of the night with two of the better teams playing their last game.

Kaiser Chiefs, who have only recently found form, put in a very good display while Riviera played an equally good game.

The scores at half time indicated the closeness of the game.

Frank Tkalecic was keen to win top scorer's honors. Jack Talia for the Chiefs was in fine form and by the beginning of the second half the game had become a tense battle.

But goals came slowly for the Chiefs who were one goal down at half time. Then Toli Averginos and Talia both scored and with an own goal they rattled up four to Riviera's two.

The defence for the Chiefs held up throughout the second half and a sigh of relief came when the final whistle blew.

Both teams are going to be very good to watch in this week.

Smooth Operators 11 Disciples 1

It was fortunate for Smooth Operators that they were playing a relatively easier team than in the previous week's encounter as John Micheloudakas was able to concentrate on scoring and put away enough goals to win the league's top scorer's award.

The Operators brought their goal tally for the season to 99, an average of 11 goals a game!

Skill is what beat the Disciples who are one of the hardest working teams in the league. Goalscorers for the Operators were Micheloudakas (5), Blin, Filipelli (2) and Bisetto (3).

Canons 6 Bonds 1

The Canons played confidently against a Bonds' side which put in a lot of effort.

Papaconstantinou could not find his scoring shoes and consequently Bonds' only goal came from Marasco.

Alatsas for the Canons won the game with his five goals, the other coming from Tsahouras.

Canons have put in a very good season at Donvale and what appeared to be an average team at the beginning has gone on to become a contender for the finals.

Shafters 7 Nike 4

The Shafters - Nike game was one which, with a little more effort, could have gone Nike's way.

Half time scores were 5-4 in Shafters' favor. Katoogiannis, who scored three goals for Nike in the first half, could not put any more away and Siskovic and Torouno played well to try and boost their team but Bastasin for Shafters, in a goalscoring mood, put another two away to end Nike's hopes. Shafters finished the season in fifth spot, a very good effort.

Calypsos 9 Red Devils 7

This was an action-packed game.

These sides had no chance of making the finals but nevertheless put in a fine display with an abundance of goals.

Paul Romano, who has been with the Red Devils only for a short time, played well with two goals to his credit.

Sweathogs 3 Azzurri 1

Both camps used up all their substitutes in this game.

The Kofos lads for Sweathogs were the scorers for their team, managing to keep Azzurri on the run from the outset.

Arborea for Azzurri was its only scorer but not much more was achieved by the team and the game ended in an easy victory for Sweathogs.

Gippsland Ghosts 11 Master Blaster 5

Another game with a lot of goals.

The Ghosts, with Marchesani in goal, soon discovered it was not his best position although the Blasters were quite happy to see him stay there as their goals in the first half came easily.

Nevertheless, the Ghosts still were able to score an impressive six-goal tally at half time.

The second half did not bring much relief to the Master Blasters as they put away three goals to the Ghosts five.

The Carafa brothers for the Ghosts were their team's main scorers, but the man-of-the-match award went to Master Blaster Peppos.

Group One standings

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Smooth Operators	9	0	0	99	19	27
Kaiser Chiefs	7	0	2	54	32	23
Canons	6	2	1	49	29	23
Riviera	6	1	2	71	38	22
Shafters	5	0	4	51	53	19
Red Devils	3	1	5	45	69	16
Calypsos	3	0	6	41	59	15
Bonds	2	0	7	32	72	13
Nike	1	0	8	33	62	11
Disciples	1	0	8	27	80	11

Group Two standings

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Carcioffo Rangers	3	1	0	15	9	11
Zlatna Luka	3	0	1	31	13	10
White Peles	2	1	0	13	6	8
Raiders	2	0	2	20	24	8
Gipps Ghosts	2	0	1	18	8	7
Sweathogs	2	0	1	15	7	7
Azzurri	2	1	3	11	24	5
Peperoncini	0	1	1	5	12	3
Ethnic United	0	0	3	7	15	3
Master Blaster	0	0	2	10	17	2

Top Scorers

Group One: 37 — Micheloudakas (50); 36 — Tkalecic (R); 33 — Alatsas (Can); 27 — Bisetto (SO).
Group Two: 15 — Pericic (ZL); 9 — Ragusa (ZL); Katiioris (R); Carafa (GG); 7 — Kofos (SW); Baravelli (WP).

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MELITA EAGLES FOR THE TITLE!

With six rounds left in the Skypack NSW State League, it is anybody's title yet. Melita Eagles still are the team most feared and with their speed and flair I fancy the Eagles are destined to take the honours.

Their run to the finish is about to start at Melita Stadium and it is most unfortunate for Avala to have to face such a daunting task of having to stop the rampant home side.

Manly Warringah and Rockdale Ilinden also are looking forward to a fine finish to the season and will be out for both points at Cromer Park. Draws suit nobody and only two pointers matter.

Contrasting styles here will add spice to this

encounter but it is difficult to see either team getting the better of the other. Manly has the job ahead and must blot out Torrevski, Nastevski, Nastoski and Risteovski if it hopes to do well. At the other end, Ilinden's defence could crumble under the weight of Allan, Dean, Van Edmond and Stuart with McIntosh also overdue to return to the field.

Bustling Manly to surprise the ball artists at Cromer?

Freshwater will have its hands full at Fairy Meadow on Sunday and could quite easily come back empty-handed. Fairy Meadow has overcome its problems and is looking forward to surprising all opponents on its run home. I feel that Fairy Meadow, with its fast and furious style, will beat Freshwater.

Uruguayan Auburn has had its share of disappointment this year but this will change on Sunday at Mona Park at the expense of Pol-

nia. Mosquero, Carrizzo and Perdomo are in fine form and with the speed and tenacity of Genc, Hastie and Van Helden will prove to be more than a handful for Steve Anderson, Polonia's young keeper.

It is difficult to see Janic and Pop breaking down the Uruguayan backline of Piriz, Woods, O'Donnell and Tomassich with Carlos Rosano adding stability with his fine performances to date.

Penrith and Sutherland clash at Cook Park and I fear for the home team. Both sides are playing similar styles of football but Sutherland is by far the faster side, suggesting that Hughes and young Hill could be in for a feast of goals. Vic Dalgleish, I am sure, will have his own story to tell and the men of Penrith will do their best to contain the speedy outfit from Sutherland.

Berkeley Sports Ground will host two sides

with impeccable defensive credentials. Who could get past those tall men of Macedonia such as Talevski, Muhlbauer and Sweeney or for that matter, Kuringai defenders such as Watson, Bertram and both fullbacks Kevern and Goldsworthy?

A tall order, indeed! The midfield battle should be dominated by the home side with Welbourne and Bingham causing problems for Sutherland and Quigley. However, I cannot see Macedonia's front line doing much to cause problems for Lacey, except in set play situations with Talevski and Sweeney coming forward to add height to its attack.

Should Nile and Bass bustle their way past this tall defence Kuringai might be the first team to come away from Berkeley for some time with both points. Manly was the last side to do so.



Air Malta player of the year award

Leading votegetters:

- 20. Farrugia (ME)
- 18. Woods (U)
- 16. Torrevski (RI)
- 15. Nastevski (RI)
- 14. Filipovic (A), Wellbourne (M)
- 11. Dick (MW)
- 10. Jamieson, D. Campbell (P), Watt (F), J. Campbell (MW), Genc (U), Watson (K), Talevski (M), Terry (S).

Skypack State League standings

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MANLY WARRINGAH ..	7	7	2	19	9	21
KU-RING-GAI	7	7	2	19	10	21
ROCK DALE ILINDEN ..	6	4	4	30	16	20
MELITA EAGLES	8	7	3	26	11	19
WOLL MACEDONIA	6	7	3	11	7	19
Sutherland	7	4	5	15	13	18
Uruguayan Auburn	3	9	4	11	15	15
Freshwater	6	2	8	25	30	14
Polonia	4	6	6	19	25	14
Avala	5	4	7	16	24	14
Penrith City	5	2	9	20	35	12
Fairy Meadow	2	1	13	13	29	5

FRESHWATER 0 PENRITH CITY 1 (McLeod 83rd) at Cromer Park.

FRESHWATER: Bowman 7 — Watt 7, Cassacchia 7, J. Bottolico 7, Sterrey 7 — Berry 7, A. Bottolico 6 (Silva 46th 7), Tkachuk 7 (Duckling 75th) — Corrigan 6, Burke 8, Driene 6.
PENRITH CITY: Edwards 8 — Hutton 7, Campbell 8, Hebb 7, Shaw 7 — Jamieson 7, Thomson 6, Cross 8, Quarmby 6 — Grey 6 (Ginn 75th), McLeod 6.

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Edwards, 2 Burke, 1 Campbell.

ROCKDALE ILINDEN 0 URUGUAYAN AUBURN 0 at Hurstville Oval.

ROCKDALE: Berry 8 — G. Wilson 8, Degney 5 (Grbesvski 7, Nastevski 7, Genovese 7) — O'Donnell 7, Woods 9, Piriz 8, Tomassich 7, Mosquero 7, Hastie 7, Genc 9 — Perdomo 8, Calcaterra 6 (Van Helden 65th), Carrizzo 6 (Youseph 82nd).

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Woods, 2 Nastoski, 1 Genc.

SUTHERLAND 0 MANLY WARRINGAH 1 (Marshall 58th) at Seymour Shaw Park.

SUTHERLAND: burroughs 7 — Nelson 7 (Hill 75th), Terry 8, Burrows 7, Lerond 6 — Cashman 7, Meades 6, Harrington 6, Johnston 7 — Hughes 5, Sharpe 5 — Dennis 5, Robin 7, Dick 8, Van Edmond 6 — Campbell 7, Dean 7, Marshall 8 (Marshall 78th), Stuart 7 — Allan 6, McIntosh 5 (70th Davison).

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Marshall, 2 Terry, 1 Dick.

KU-RING-GAI 1 (Bass 53rd, Nile 80th) FAIRY MEADOW 1 (Kiranwan pen 82nd) at Parklands.

KU-RING-GAI: Lacey 7 — Kevern 7, Bertram 7, Watson 8, Goldsworthy 8 — Groome 8, Sutherland 8, Williamson 6 (McKegan 82nd), Quigley 7 — Nile 7 (Ferguson 85th), Begg 7.
FAIRY MEADOW: Kranjovic 8 — Ind 6 (82nd Hobbs), Berringer 8, Kerr 7, Burleigh 6 — Maguire 6 — Marjanovic 6, Piezo 5, Cario 8 — Reys (53rd Dummett 7), Kirwan 8.

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Goldsworthy, 2 Kirwan, 1 Groome.

POLONIA 0 MELITA EAGLES 2 (Meerban 43rd, Dalton 47th) at Chopin Park.

POLONIA: Anderson 8 — Chou 6 (Robertson 7, Kulwicki 6, Pratt 5 — Colusso 6, Sobczyk 7, Geekie 6 (57th Smith, 6) Drys 7 — Janic 7, Pop 6.

MELITA EAGLES: Pupovac 7 — McCoy 7, Wilson 7, Gregson 8, Williams 8 — Vial 8, Farrugia 8, Callanan 8 — Farnsworth 7, Dalton 7, Meerban 8.

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Farrugia, 2 Callanan, 1 Williams.

AVALA 1 (Filipovic 75th pen) WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 1 (Wellbourne 42nd) at Knights Park.

AVALA: Thurlow 7 — Blackburn 7, Brown 7, Stevens 8, Divani 7 — Blazic 8, Marino 6, Jeffery (sent off 15th) — Radak 7, Filipovic 8, Brankovic 7.
MACEDONIA: G. Robinson 7 — Muhlbauer 7, Talevski 8, Sweeney 8, Ruskin 7 — Wellbourne 8, Sattin 7, Bingham 8 — Giraldi 7 — B. Robinson 6, King 6.

Best players for the Air Malta award: 3 Filipovic, 2 Wellbourne, 1 Bingham.

Second grade results: Polonia — Melita 2-2, Ilinden — Uruguay 0-0, Sutherland — Manly 1-0, Avala — Wollongong 2-0, Ku-Ring-Gai — Meadow 2-1, Freshwater — Penrith 0-0.

Third grade results: Polonia — Melita Eagles 1-1, Ilinden — Uruguay 2-2, Sutherland — Manly 2-2, Avala — Wollongong 1-0, Ku-Ring-Gai — Meadow 5-0, Freshwater — Penrith 0-3.

Second Grade table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
MELITA EAGLES	11	4	1	33	16	26
FRESHWATER	9	4	3	19	22	22
KU-RING-GAI	8	3	27	18	19	18
SUTHERLAND	8	3	20	17	19	18
Fairy Meadow	8	2	31	21	18	18
Penrith	7	4	24	25	18	17
Uruguay	5	6	30	29	15	15
Avala	7	8	23	23	14	14
Manly Warringah	4	6	21	14	14	14
Macedonia	4	7	27	37	11	11
Polonia	2	2	14	10	6	6

Third Grade table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
SUTHERLAND	12	0	6	10	30	24
PENRITH CITY	12	3	1	49	14	27
MELITA EAGLES	9	5	2	47	10	23
AVALA	10	2	4	29	20	22
Rockdale Ilinden	9	3	4	48	21	21
Manly Warringah	8	2	6	26	19	18
Woll. Macedonia	5	2	9	20	12	12
Uruguayan	5	2	9	24	38	12
Polonia	3	4	9	17	30	10
Ku-Ring-Gai	4	1	11	21	32	9
Freshwater	1	3	12	15	61	5
Fairy Meadow	1	1	14	11	89	3

The Sea Eagles assumed top position on the league ladder once again after their narrow victory at Seymour Shaw Park against Sutherland last Sunday.

Rockdale Ilinden had problems against Uruguay at Hurstville and never looked like getting the points with its star imports Nastevski and Torrevski well held in check.

Ku-Ring-Gai is the surprise packet of 1986. Only one goal separates Ku-Ring-Gai from Manly in top spot after 16 rounds and with Manly having to face Rockdale at this week and Ku-Ring-Gai to play Macedonia another chance is quite possible with Ku-Ring-Gai, for the first time, becoming the pacesetter in State League.

Barry Unsworth

Rockdale Ilinden has become one of the best supported clubs in the State League. Over 25,000 spectators have turned the turnstiles at Ilinden's home matches this year including NSW Premier Barry Unsworth.

However, neither the large crowd nor the presence of the Premier could lift the home team to greater heights with Uruguay shading Ilinden in an exciting and tough struggle.

Ilinden's star players, Vlado Torrevski and Zlatko Nastevski, failed to produce the goods, being marked very closely by Billie Piriz and Aytec Genc respectively, but Vince Nastoski bounced back to form with a creditable performance. Peter Berry in goal and Geoff Wilson at fullback also shone for Ilinden while Brett Woods, Genc, and to an extent Piriz and Perdomo showed great skill and fighting qualities.

Missed chances

Melita Eagles wrapped this game up in just minutes scoring two minutes before half time and two minutes into the second half but the scoreline could have been quite different had Melita players used their chances to good advantage.

With Ray Farrugia controlling the midfield and Callanan and Vial supporting the ex-Maltese international, Polonia always was backpedalling.

Andrew Callanan made the break in the 42nd to find Farnsworth who did well to stay on his feet and even manage a shot which skimmed the crossbar. From the resultant goal-

kick, Warren Dalton picked the ball up, ran wide, then crossed for Jemal Meerban to score from 10 metres.

Two minutes into the second half and Callanan was there again finding Lenny Vial who crossed for Dalton to make it 2-0.

On the slide

Windy conditions and a bumpy surface were not conducive to good football providing spectators with a less than average performance by both sides.

However, the slide looked good enough to win it or bad enough to lose until very late in the match when indecision by Bowman and the opportunism of Stuart McLeod gave Penrith an unexpected win. Freshwater was keen with the decision to allow the goal claiming that Bowman was interfered with while in possession of the ball.

However, I prefer to think that the loss of Walker and Giannone has hurt Freshwater far more.

Hilton Silva looked in good touch after he came on for Alex Bottolico at half time but his finishing left a lot to be desired.

Burke and Driene failed to provide the fireworks expected while Tkachuk, much talked about for his shooting prowess, failed to fire during the game and was replaced in the 79th minute.

Four wins and two draws in the last seven matches for Penrith is a fine fightback by the side from Cook Park while Freshwater is on the slide with its fifth loss in six games.

Jeffery sent off

Avala scraped out of this encounter at Knights Park after being a goal down and a player down for most of the match.

Glen Jeffery, an expensive signing from Ku-Ring-Gai last year, was sent off after a scuffle with Bingham. Jeffery reacted to their pushing match by throwing the ball at Bingham.

And that was the reason for this particular send-off. I find it difficult to accept that players are being sent off for that particular offence with



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

bone crunching tackles being allowed to slip by as if nothing had happened.

Avala was left to play 75 minutes of this match with 10 men. Close to half time Anthony Wellbourne chimed in to beat the offside trap and receive a through ball from Harry Sattin before beating Thurlow.

With the Macedonia defence so well organised and Avala down to 10 men it looked like curtains for the home side. However Radak, Filipovic and Brankovic came back at Macedonia with venom and got a late reprieve.

Chris Talevski saved for the visitors on the line and was adjudged to have handled. A penalty was given.

Zoran Filipovic made no

mistake to score his seventh goal of the season and the points were shared.

Sharks stunned

Manly Warringah assumed top spot in State League once again following its narrow victory against Sutherland away from home.

Paul Marshall decided the issue after 58 minutes after combining with Jimmy Campbell to face the keeper and score.

Peter Terry cleared off the line at the other end after Don Allan headed over Burroughs in the 73rd, then came a screamer of a shot by Gary Van Edmond in the last minute of the match which rattled the post.



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Leading scorers:
13. Nastevski (RI)
7. Hughes (S), Filipovic (A)

6. Drys (P), Bass (K)
5. Corrigan Tkachuk (F), Marshall (MW), Dalton (ME), Pop (P), Genovese, Risteovski (RI)

TNT SKYPAK

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SKYPAK STATE LEAGUE OF N.S.W.

STATE LEAGUE, Sunday 27.7.86

MELITA EAGLES — AVALA, Melita Stadium
URUGUAYAN — POLONIA, Mona Park
MANLY WARRINGAH — ROCKDALE, Cromer Park
PENRITH CITY — SUTHERLAND, Cook Park
WOLL. MACEDONIA — KU-RING-GAI, Berkeley Sports Ground
FAIRY MEADOW — FRESHWATER, Corral Memorial Park

DIVISION II, Sat. 26.7.86

KINGSFORD HELLINIC — BLACKTOWN UTD, Kensington Oval
BANKSTOWN LEBANON — DEE WHY SWANS, Memorial Park
CAMPBELLTOWN CITY — QUEENS PARK, Lynnwood Park

Sun. 27.7.86

CANTERBURY — YUGAL, Black Oval
ARTARMON — BATHURST, Artarmon Reserve
GLADESVILLE — NTH BANKSTOWN, Pioneer Park

DIVISION III, Sat. 26.7.86

NTH RYDE RSL — MOOREBANK, Magdala Park
BONDI MARINE — UNI OF NSW, Waverley Oval
PORT HACKING — BAULKHAM HILLS, Seymour Shaw

Sun. 27.7.86

CAMPBELLTOWN GUNNERS — WEST UTD, Bensley Rd.
MT DRUITT TOWN — GRANVILLE CHILE, Popondetta Park
KING TOMISLAV — ROOBY HILL, Croatian S/C

STATE LEAGUE, Sunday 3.8.86

KU-RING-GAI — MELITA EAGLES, Parklands
AVALA — URUGUAYAN, Knights Park
POLONIA — MANLY WARRINGAH, Chopin Park
SUTHERLAND — ROCK. ILINDEN, Seymour Shaw
FRESHWATER — WOLL. MACEDONIA, Cromer Park
FAIRY MEADOW — PENRITH CITY, Corral Memorial Park

DIVISION II, Sat. 2.8.86

CANTERBURY — QUEENS PARK, Black Oval
GLADESVILLE — ARTARMON, Pioneer Park

Sun. 3.8.86

YUGAL — KINGSFORD, Black Oval
BLACKTOWN UTD — LEBANON, Francis Park
DEE WHY — BATHURST, Dee Why Oval
NTH BANKSTOWN — CAMPBELLTOWN C. Potts Park

DIVISION III, Sat. 2.8.86

WEST UNITED — MT DRUITT, Harold Res Reserve
GRANVILLE CHILE — NORTH RYDE RSL, Garside Park

Sun. 3.8.86

ROOBY HILL — CAMPBELLTOWN, Cawarra Park
MOOREBANK — BONDI MARINE, Hammondville
BAULKHAM HILLS — KING TOMISLAV, Ted Horwood Reserve
PORT HACKING — UNI OF NSW.

2nd & 3rd Divisions

Kingsford Hellenic stumbled at Dee Why Oval to let Gladesville slip through to take over at the top of Second Division. In fact Yugal also has slipped past it on goal difference to take over second place and the race now is on in earnest for the Premiership.

Yugal will hold its annual fund-raising dinner at the Yugal Club this Saturday. Tickets cost \$50 a single and each ticket will go into a raffle for a trip to Yugoslavia provided by J.A.T., the Yugoslav airline.

Second Division results:

1-0. Dee Why — Kingsford 1-0, Bathurst — Lebanon 1-0, Yugal — Campbelltown 2-1, Queens Park — Gladesville 0-1, Nth Bankstown — Artarmon 2-0.

2nd Division Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GLADESVILLE	11	3	2	36	18	25
YUGAL	11	2	3	36	18	25
KINGSFORD	11	2	3	31	14	24

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
NTH BANK	8	2	6	24	14	18
Dee Why	7	6	1	12	17	18
Blacktown	5	5	5	16	13	17
Campbelltown	4	6	6	20	18	14
Bathurst	5	4	7	18	19	14
Lebanon	4	5	7	15	24	13
Artarmon	3	5	8	14	28	11
Queens Park	1	11	18	24	49	9
Canterbury	2	1	13	9	41	5

Third Division results: Granville Chile — Campbelltown 1-1, Moorebank — Mt Druitt 0-1, Bondi Marine — North Ryde RSL 3-2, West Utd — King Tomislav postponed, Rooby Hill — Port Hacking 3-0, Baulkham Hills — Uni of NSW 3-1.

3rd Division Table

	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
GRANVILLE CHILE	7	6	1	34	15	26
BONDI	8	6	2	26	16	22
ROOBY HILL	7	7	2	24	12	21
WEST UTD	7	3	4	22	17	19
Camp Utd	6	3	4	24	14	17
Mt Druitt	7	3	6	17	15	17
Nth Ryde	8	1	7	21	24	17
Baulkham	4	4	8	25	32	12
Pt Hacking	4	4	8	20	27	12
Moorebank	5	2	9	16	24	12
Uni of NSW	4	3	9	20	22	11

Medibank Private

SCOREBOARD

<p>CLAYTON 4 4 9 25 32 12 East Geelong 4 3 11 23 39 11 Berwick City 2 5 10 21 37 11 Warrnambool 2 5 9 23 32 12</p> <p>RESERVES Malvern City 13 2 2 44 18 28 Ivanhoe City 9 4 2 30 16 22 Ardeer 8 6 4 36 26 22 Geelong United 6 4 4 36 26 22 Berwick City 10 0 7 35 20 30 Williamstown 8 3 6 41 28 19 Seaford United 8 2 5 16 18 18 East Geelong 8 1 9 34 41 17 Clayton 6 3 8 46 25 15 East Preston 5 3 9 23 32 12 Pascoe Vale 6 0 11 32 36 12 Warrnambool 4 3 9 23 32 12 Geelong United 3 4 10 27 31 12 Central City 3 1 23 32 7</p> <p>PROV TWO Nth Sunshine 10 2 4 31 17 22 Mossfield 9 4 4 24 11 22 Regent 7 8 2 26 14 22 Melton 8 6 3 25 18 22 Chelsea 9 3 4 30 16 21 Manash United 8 2 7 33 26 18 Crabbourne 6 5 5 25 17 21 Bruswick City 6 4 2 19 15 16 Melton 9 4 4 35 22 18 Geelong United 6 4 3 32 18 18 Dingley United 4 8 4 22 13 13 Dingley United 4 8 4 22 13 13 Monbulk 2 5 10 21 37 11 Uni of Melb 1 6 9 18 42 8</p> <p>RESERVES Nth Sunshine 13 1 2 41 14 27 Bruswick City 6 4 2 19 15 16 Melton 9 4 4 35 22 18 Crabbourne 8 3 4 30 16 21 Uni of Melb 6 4 3 32 18 18 Dingley United 4 8 4 22 13 13 Dingley United 4 8 4 22 13 13 Monbulk 2 5 10 21 37 11 Forest Hill 7 2 7 31 32 16 Manash United 8 2 7 33 26 18 Mossfield 6 2 9 30 16 21 Chelsea 2 6 8 24 45 10 Sth Dandenong 2 2 11 17 43 8 Regent 2 4 16 6 6</p>	<p>PROV THREE Batman Utd 14 2 1 52 22 30 West Meadows 12 5 1 60 23 29 Richmond Utd 10 1 37 21 25 Sth Yarra 9 4 5 41 22 22 Sth Springfield 9 4 4 46 31 22 Ascat Vale City 8 4 5 27 20 20 Burwood Utd 6 6 8 28 25 18 Meade Park 5 4 8 29 28 18 Port Utd 4 5 9 27 43 14 Richmond Utd 5 2 10 22 39 12 Richmond Utd 4 3 10 35 11 Parkmore 3 3 11 30 42 9 Altona Utd 3 3 12 41 19 Fitzroy City 3 3 11 22 53 9</p> <p>RESERVES West Meadows 14 3 0 91 9 31 Meade Park 12 1 5 39 16 21 Richmond Utd 14 1 5 35 29 18 Batman Utd 9 4 3 39 25 18 Glenory 8 3 5 45 18 19 Richmond Utd 6 3 5 35 29 18 Burwood Utd 8 3 5 45 18 19 Sth Springfield 9 4 3 35 18 18 Ascat Vale City 8 4 5 35 29 18 Richmond Utd 6 3 5 35 29 18 Parkmore 5 2 10 22 39 12 Altona Utd 3 3 10 35 11 Fitzroy City 3 3 11 22 53 9</p> <p>PROV FOUR Sth Kilda 13 4 1 42 18 30 Waverley Utd 13 4 1 42 18 30 North Utd 12 3 4 24 27 17 Lalor 9 5 4 46 26 22 Kensington Utd 9 2 7 41 26 22 North Utd 12 3 4 24 27 17 Ringwood Rvrs 8 2 7 32 26 18 Melville 7 3 8 27 32 17 Waverley Utd 5 7 28 32 17 Waverley Utd 5 7 28 32 17 Riverdale 4 8 9 28 32 17 Carum Utd 5 2 11 25 39 12 West Utd 4 11 29 42 11 Lyndale Utd 2 11 29 42 11 Debeny Park 2 4 13 32 6 6</p> <p>RESERVES Waverley Utd 12 2 4 51 26 26 Lalor 11 2 3 42 19 24</p>	<p>West Utd 9 3 4 46 31 21 Carum Utd 8 4 5 40 26 20 Glenory 8 3 5 39 29 20 Glenory 9 2 4 47 37 20 Riverdale 8 3 5 32 29 19 Skye Rovers 6 6 5 35 26 18 Ringwood Rvrs 6 6 5 35 26 18 Sth Kilda 5 5 8 35 37 15 Belacava 3 6 7 27 36 12 Debeny Park 1 7 10 22 55 9 Melville 2 4 11 24 38 9 Kensington Utd 3 0 15 25 7 6</p> <p>AMAT ONE Ascat St Marks 10 3 2 44 20 23 Macos 9 3 4 33 21 1 Phillip Inst 8 3 4 37 26 19 Collingwood Cy 7 5 3 30 21 19 Brintons 8 3 4 37 26 19 Balwyn City 8 2 5 29 25 18 Epping Thistle 6 1 8 20 24 13 Endersburg 3 7 5 32 30 13 Endersburg 3 7 5 32 30 13 Endersburg 3 7 5 32 30 13 Diamond Valley 3 3 9 30 23 9 Melbourne Uni 2 9 24 40 8</p> <p>RESERVES Ascat St Marks 12 0 3 50 19 24 Balwyn City 11 2 2 42 18 24 Epping Thistle 10 1 4 32 28 21 Endersburg 7 3 4 37 26 19 Brintons 7 1 6 30 20 15 Macos 5 3 7 25 35 13 North Utd 5 2 8 32 37 12 Endersburg 6 0 9 33 45 12 Phillip Inst 4 2 13 34 10 Melbourne Uni 1 10 35 38 9 Diamond Valley 2 4 9 13 47 8</p> <p>AMAT TWO Diggers Rest 10 2 2 30 15 22 Waverley Utd 9 2 2 30 15 22 East Atlanta 9 0 4 34 14 18 C.W. 3 TAA 2 5-3, All Nth Tarrion 1 Glenory Doka Utd 2 2-5, Essendon 1 Yams 1 Tarrion 2, Middle Park 4 Apello United 2, 1-0.</p> <p>DIVISION 2: Fibremakers Utd 7 Rowville United 1, 5-2, Preston Pythons 8 St Bernard's O.C. 2-4, Fogarty Pythons 8 New Deal 1, 1-0.</p>	<p>Oakleigh Utd 3 2 8 24 45 8 Nth Melbourne 0 1 11 8 6 1</p> <p>RESERVES Waverley Wanders 9 4 1 58 10 22 East Atlanta 8 5 0 34 15 21 La Trobe Uni 9 2 3 37 15 21 Diggers Rest 4 2 3 36 20 20 Yarra United 6 3 3 39 27 15 Yarra United 6 3 3 39 27 15 East Richmond 4 2 7 19 42 10 Oakleigh Utd 4 1 8 31 44 9 Old Scotch 3 2 9 17 32 8 Nth Melbourne 0 1 11 8 6 1</p> <p>DIVISION 3 EAST: Dandenong Concor 0 Dallas United 7, Nth St Helena 8 Bowater Scott 2, Swinburne 1 Ferris United 3, The Age 2 Salesian College 7, Whittlesia 0 Keeley Kings 8</p> <p>DIVISION 3 WEST: Kellor Old Boys 4 Deer Park 1.</p> <p>DIVISION 4: Ansett 2 Sunbury 2, Garden City 2 Embassy Taxis 0, Hallmark Inds 1 Laminex 3, Kings Pk Heights 7 Oakleigh City 0, Nippandos 3 Creswick Town 7.</p> <p>DIV 1 Glenory Doka Utd 9 1 3 32 17 17 Tottenham 9 1 3 32 17 17 All Hinden C.W. 8 0 4 34 18 16 Melko Holdings 7 1 4 40 26 15 All Nth Tarrion 2 4 3 11 15 14 Apello United 5 5 2 31 22 15 Middle Park 6 3 3 30 14 15 All Nth Tarrion 4 4 3 13 11 11 Salesian College 2 2 1 9 19 62 5 Essendon Trans 2 2 2 22 53 6 T.A.A. 2 2 2 22 53 6</p> <p>DIV 1 RESERVES Middle Park 9 2 1 52 18 20 Glenory Doka Utd 9 1 2 42 13 19 All Hinden C.W. 6 3 3 30 26 15 Fogarty United 4 2 2 21 12 14 Tottenham 4 4 2 29 33 12 T.A.A. 5 1 6 35 38 11 Apello United 2 2 8 14 29 6 Melko Holdings 2 2 8 14 29 6 A.N.Z. Bank 1 4 7 14 37 6</p> <p>DIV 2 Preston Pythons 9 0 2 51 22 18 Fogarty United 6 1 2 29 15 13 Amicon 5 1 2 29 15 13 Fibremakers Utd 5 1 3 31 11 11 Northcote United 4 2 2 27 13 18 Rowville United 3 1 7 21 35 7 New Deal 2 1 7 15 40 5 St Bernard's O.C. 2 1 7 17 53 5 Taxation United 1 6 8 20 3</p>	<p>DIV 2 RESERVES Fibremakers Utd 9 0 1 50 11 18 Preston Pythons 9 0 1 50 11 18 Kew Deal 6 0 4 19 12 12 Rowville United 3 3 5 26 28 9 Taxation United 4 1 3 24 30 9 Northcote United 3 1 4 18 25 7 Amicon 2 3 4 18 25 7 St Bernard's O.C. 3 1 6 14 30 7 Fogarty United 0 1 9 13 39 1</p> <p>DIV 3 EAST Dallas United 10 0 1 49 10 20 Bowater Scott 9 1 3 36 22 20 Nth St Helena 9 1 3 36 22 20 Ferris United 8 1 3 32 17 17 Keeley Kings 6 0 4 40 23 12 Whittlesia 5 2 2 29 12 12 The Age 2 1 9 26 55 5 Dandenong Concor 2 1 9 19 62 5 Swinburne 1 2 9 15 39 4 Salesian College 2 0 9 23 51 4</p> <p>DIV 3 WEST Kellor Old Boys 7 2 2 29 18 16 Highpoint 7 1 2 47 12 15 St Albans Wanders 1 2 3 41 11 15 RAAF College 3 5 1 18 8 11 Deer Park 4 2 5 38 29 10 Fogarty United 4 2 2 21 12 14 St Albans Dynam 4 4 2 29 33 12 Altona Heights 1 0 8 15 37 2 West Footscray 0 10 8 63 0</p> <p>DIV 4 Kings Pk Heights 8 4 0 47 20 18 Creswick Town 8 1 3 41 22 17 Garden City 5 5 3 34 20 17 Hallmark Inds 6 3 3 30 26 15 Laminex 5 3 4 28 34 13 Ansett 3 7 2 24 23 13 Oakleigh City 5 4 1 46 26 9 Embassy Taxis 3 1 20 26 8 Nippandos 3 1 8 22 50 7 Sunbury 0 2 10 11 32 2</p> <p>VIC. AMATEUR ASSOCIATION Division One: L.E.T. v Burnley 2-0.</p>	<p>Sunshine IASC v Lemos 2-0, Westall Timorese v Chieftans Club 4-1, Watsonia Heights v Dandy Olympic 3-1, Proletex Melbourne v Northern Star 1-2</p> <p>Div One Table W D L F A Pt Lemos 11 1 1 43 12 23 L.E.T. 10 1 2 32 10 21 Chieftans Club 9 1 3 38 29 19 Northern Star 7 2 3 33 26 16 Dandy Olympic 6 3 4 37 26 15 Sunshine IASC 5 4 2 22 15 14 Ericsson 4 2 7 16 32 10 Burnley 4 2 6 12 30 10 Watsonia Heights 2 2 6 21 36 8 Westall Timorese 2 3 8 22 32 7 Proletex 1 11 10 42 3</p> <p>Division Two L.E.T. v Preston 2-2, Sunshine IASC v Lemos 2-3, Westall Timorese v Chieftans Club 5-1, Nth Fitzroy M.T.A. v Northern Star 5-0</p> <p>Div Two Table W D L F A Pt Westall Timorese 1 2 51 22 19 L.E.T. 3 3 26 9 19 Dandy Olympic 8 1 26 18 17 Lemos 1 2 34 11 15 Preston 6 4 2 29 14 16 Chieftans Club 7 1 41 31 15 N. North Perth 5, Kwinana 2, Sorrento 1, Morley 1</p> <p>DIVISION THREE: Sunbury 2-2, Westall Timorese 1-0, Rockingham 1-0, Armadale Pk 0, Subiaco 2, Wanneroo 4, Swan Athl 10, Leederville 0, Swan Crok 1, Perth City 2, Western 1, Booragoon 3.</p>
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Can new NSL escape world-wide 'ills'?

From Page 3

years from 22 to 20 clubs, and the top clubs will also get a bigger share of sponsorship and television money. As was the case with the NSL a couple of years ago, the top English clubs also are to get more voting rights.

And while clubs work further to rationalise their expenditure, two of them — Charlton and Crystal Palace — even agreed to share a stadium. So it may be next season with St George Budapest and Sydney Olympic in the NSL.

Ultimately, however, clubs throughout the world are starting to realise that what really matters is the way the game is played on the field and that unless the spectators want to come and watch it, income from other areas will dry up. No one wants to sponsor or televise an event that interests nobody.

People are in a position to compare the relative merits of the leisure-time activity they choose. Steve Spielberg offers a thrill a minute in his movies. Soccer too often offers a yawn a minute.

In the past, teams played with a goalkeeper, two defenders and eight attackers. Teams made more mistakes and were less organised but in the chaos, creative skills blossomed. Now, football is so mechanically organised in most countries it has lost its magic. Punishment for fouls are too lenient, enabling the brutal to triumph over the artistic. The offside law is used to wreck the game as a spectacle and to frustrate the fans on the terraces. Violence has taken over the stands — perhaps partly as an outlet for some of that frustration. What's more, it is simply too cold in most countries to watch soccer in winter. The only reason it started as a winter sport was because the British didn't want it competing with cricket.

The laws of the game are stubborn. They must, however, bend with the times. The offside rule must be restricted to no more than a third of the field, rather than half of it. Perhaps the goals could be made marginally larger. Punishment for foul play must be more severe.

But in Australia's case in particular, the most important thing is to promote the game, to brighten it up on the field, and then to wage a campaign aimed at bringing the fans through the turnstiles. They are out there, but they are spread among countless clubs throughout the suburbs of all the capital cities. Soccer's task is to create an atmosphere in which a larger percentage of those people will come to NSL matches on Sundays, even after having watched their own local team on Saturday.

We could point to the American experiment while it was successful, but without television support, and without tradition to fall back on when the novelty wore off, there was nothing left when the NASL folded in 1985.

Australia's promotion drive need not be as ambitious as America's. Indeed we do not have that sort of money.

But if the NSL goes ahead with its plans to jettison 10 clubs, it had better be damned sure that its remaining structure is protected by:

- Hard and fast limits on transfer fees and wages (the VFL has a salary cap);
- A network of one full-time and a series of part-time promotions experts at league level, plus a requirement that each club has a promotions committee;
- Adequate and on-going sponsorship of the league itself;
- Guaranteed TV exposure;
- A commitment by each club to provide, within a stipulated time, covered accommodation for spectators.

The cheapest, most effective form of promotion is to print a couple of thousand free tickets each week and pop them into letter boxes in designated areas. Those who come along may come again, and they certainly will buy a drink and a hot dog.

Get kids involved. Have lucky numbers on children's tickets (even if those tickets are free) and have the winners presented with free soccer balls by your club's stars before the match or at half time.

Get your top player involved in every community activity that has a high profile, which gives you a great chance to get his picture in the papers or on TV. Get involved in media forums.

Get your players sponsored by companies individually and get them to make themselves available for company promotions.

These are not some ideas.

To avoid undue competition from lower-league clubs, amalgamate with them. What's wrong with South Melbourne Hellas, Caulfield, Oakleigh and

Nelson: Polonia won't go down

From page nine

"I haven't got a lot of respect for Tony Wright's knowledge of soccer. To be honest, I haven't got much time for that whole committee because I was the first under their constitution I had to re-apply for the coaching job."

"It's a well-known trick in soccer here. The old it's-in-the-constitution rule. What it really means is that you're no longer wanted as coach but no-one wants to come straight out and tell you."

But I have great memories of my time with North. Winning the Metropolitan Cup against Brighton was a highlight and a lot of players put in for me and for that I'm thankful. I would like to mention one guy — Neil Collyer — who had two really good seasons with me. He's the best dead-ball kicker I've seen here.

"And under Guthrie I was given sole authority to pick the team, something that doesn't happen at plenty of other clubs. In fact, it's because committees and supporters try and get involved so often in team selection that I've got no great ambitions to coach at, say, National League level."

Two clubs pursued Nelson for the 1985 season — Frankston Pines and Box Hill. Pines won and paid North \$2,750 for him.

"To tell you the truth, I agreed terms with Box Hill just before Christmas, 1984. In retrospect I regret not going there because I would have liked to have played under Keith Webster who's a pal of mine. I'd spoken to about four Box Hill committeemen and to Keith and although they weren't too happy about me joining Pines instead, I've seen all of them since then and they've been great. I've got a great deal of respect for Box Hill and the people that run the club."

But Nelson made a disastrous start to his stint with Pines. Early last year he tore medial ligaments and only returned for the last eight games of the season. It was his first serious injury in Australian soccer. He had missed just one game due to injury in his previous eight seasons here.

But he was determined to come back.

"I had to prove to a few people that I could do it. Especially North Dandenong. I wanted to prove to them that I still could play in the State League."

Pines coach Danny McMinimee groomed Nelson for the sweeper role this season. Nelson started off in fine fashion but ended up loathing the role and when McMinimee dropped him, he agreed with the decision, which was to lead to his switch to Polonia late last month.

"Pines have excellent facilities, good supporters, a top committee and fine individual players but the team spirit there is non-existent. I think that's Pines' biggest problem. There certainly was something that just wasn't quite right during my time there."

"Late last year Danny (McMinimee) told me that he had me in mind for the sweeper's job this season and that was fine by me. I really like Danny and his wife and family and I mean that sincerely. I'm saying that because some people think that we had a personality clash which just isn't true."

"What is true is that Danny and me have very different views on the game, especially when it comes to playing sweeper."

"I felt that Danny wanted me to do everything at once — cover both fullbacks, drop off from the centre and be the constructive player at the back. Incidentally, I see that Pines have opted for John Cumming as sweeper, a purely defensive move."

"My last two games for Pines were terrible, probably the worst games I've played in Australia and Danny was quite correct to drop me. By then I'd started to feel pressure out on the park and that's just not me, but I didn't go running to Danny asking for a move because I'd been dropped. I asked him if I figured in his midfield plans and he said no. He basically encouraged me to move."

So Nelson switched to Polonia for a \$1,500 transfer fee, one of five new players signed by new coach Miron Bleiberg. The others were Aki Kotzamis and Goran Trogric from Melbourne Croatia, Gerry Bennett from George Cross and Paul Drinoczky from Rotzwick Juventus.

"I've always admired the style of soccer Polonia plays and even though I'm in my 30s I still can learn about the game. We all can. All the time. I wanted to play with a non-British club and see how I'd go and so far I'm pleased."

"There's no way Polonia will go down. I wouldn't have signed if I'd thought they'd get relegated. We've still got to play Melbourne and Ringwood Wilhelmnia at home and we must win both games. I expect to win them too."

"I'm taking particular delight in watching the way Miron Bleiberg works. He's a very, very shrewd guy when it comes to soccer and once big Alex Marshall gets fit he'll be a big bonus. He really lifts my game when he's in full flight. He's one of the most exciting players around and the only guy I've seen who can literally win a game for you all by himself."

"I've never even seen myself as a possible National League player and frankly I'm not that keen on watching National League games. The emphasis at that level solely is on winning. I'd much rather watch a State League game. It's far more open because players at that level are less restricted."

"Bobby McGuinness of Western Suburbs is the best forward I've seen here, bar none. Every time I've seen him play he's played well. If used correctly I've got no doubts at all that he could do the job in the National League."

"Going back a few years now, Ben Wilkinson is the best midfielder I've seen here and Ken Reed was a tremendous goalscorer."

The Nelsons, Rob and Dave, work for Frampton Carpets in Ferntree Gully. Rob and his wife Ann have three daughters — Candice 6, Amber 4 and Holly 2.

Rob Nelson's contract with Polonia expires at the end of this season. If he and his team mates stay in the club from relegation there's no certainty that he'll stay. He'll think about that at the end of the year. But right now, he's enjoying himself.

"I've long been an admirer of the skill of the Czapiak brothers and Mirok Smolnarek. It may seem strange to say so with the side struggling to avoid relegation but I've thought for some time now that Polonia was the best pure footballing team in the league. The Polish players strike the ball superbly and if we can get it all together I've got no doubts about our ability to climb the ladder."

Dockerty Cup draw

The following are the draws and dates for the remainder of the Ricoh Dockerty Cup. The allocation of games and grounds for the rounds up to and including the quarter finals will be made at a later date:

2nd main round
 September 29 and 31: (A) Western Suburbs v Sunbury;

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Nunawading City; (G) Knox City v Croydon City; (H) Ringwood City v Box Hill.

3rd Main round
 Thursday, September 25: (1) Heidelberg United v winner of C; (2) Brunswick Utd Juventus v winner of D; (3) Green Gully v winner of H; (4) Preston v winner of E; (5) South Melbourne v winner of B; (6) Melbourne Croatia v winner of F; (7) Sunshine George Cross v winner of G; (8) Footscray v winner of A.



OLYMPIC
AIRWAYS

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA



Round 16 — 26/27 July

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Brunswick Juventus vs Green Gully

Olympic Park No. 1 SUNDAY 3 pm

Youth Game:

Juventus vs Green Gully at 12.45 pm



LEN McKENDRY



BRIAN GARVEY

Heidelberg Alexander vs Adelaide Hellas

Olympic Village SUNDAY 3 pm

Youth Game:

Heidelberg vs Brighton at 12.45 pm

Footscray JUST vs Brisbane City

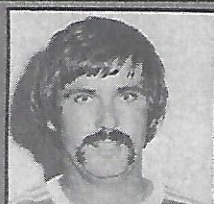
Schintler Reserve SUNDAY 3 pm

Youth Game:

Footscray JUST vs Frankston Pines at 12.45 pm



DRAGOSLAV SEKULARAC



JOHN GARDINER

Brisbane Lions vs George Cross

Richlands SUNDAY 3 pm

Youth Game:

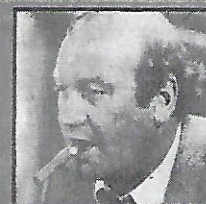
Fawkner vs Sunshine Geo Cross at 12.45 pm

Adelaide City vs Melbourne Croatia

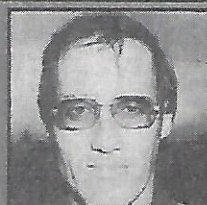
Olympic Sports Field SUNDAY 2.30 pm

Youth Game:

Nunawading City vs Melbourne Croatia at 12.45 pm



TERRY HENNESSY



BILL MURRAY

Preston Makedonia vs Sth Melb Hellas

Connor Reserve SUNDAY 3 pm

Youth Game:

Makedonia vs Hellas at 12.45 pm

NORTHERN DIVISION

Canterbury vs Blacktown
Arlington Oval SATURDAY 3 pm

St George vs Wollongong City
St George Stadium SUNDAY 3 pm

Newcastle vs Canberra City
Adamstown Oval SATURDAY 2.30 pm

Sydney Croatia vs Sydney Olympic
Croatian Sports Centre SUNDAY 3 pm

Inter Monaro vs Marconi
Bruce Stadium SUNDAY 3 pm

A.P.I.A. Leichhardt vs Sydney City
Lambert Park SUNDAY 3 pm

Ansett.

POOLS
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